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CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING 6 AUGUST 1991

GOLD COAST REGION ... a social atlas

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PREFACE

A social atlas presents, at a glance, a picture of the key social, demographic and economic characteristics of an area's population. This series of 36 maps shows the distribution of these characteristics in the Gold Coast region as collected in the twelfth national Census of Population and Housing conducted on 6 August 1991. With the exception of two maps, Population change and Visitors to the Gold Coast region, this atlas maps the characteristics of persons counted at their dwelling of usual residence and excludes all visitors. The term visitors refers to persons who were absent from their usual residence on census night. Their usual residence may have been either within the Gold Coast region or outside the region. All maps in the atlas are accompanied by a brief commentary highlighting the main features and trends in the data.

Other atlases have been produced for all State and Territory capital cities. They have been compiled on the basis of all people, including visitors counted in the cities on census night and are therefore not directly comparable with this publication. These capital city atlases have a common core set of maps to facilitate comparisons between cities as well as maps emphasising the unique attributes of particular cities.

The characteristics selected for mapping in this atlas are a small subset of the wealth of information available from the census. Additional maps can be produced on request for areas ranging in size from census collection district (approximately 200 to 300 dwellings) to the whole of the State and Australia.

Census publications and maps (as well as other ABS products) are available for sale at all ABS offices. The Queensland office of the ABS is located at 313 Adelaide St, Brisbane or products may be obtained by writing to the Deputy Commonwealth Statistician, GPO Box 9817, Brisbane Q 4001 or any ABS office.

The Queensland office of the ABS provides an information service for statistical inquiries on (07) 222 6351.

The ABS recognises the advice and financial support of the Gold Coast City and Albert Shire councils. All maps and commentary in this Social Atlas and the cover design were produced by the Statistical Services and Client Support Branch of the Queensland office of the ABS, with assistance from the ABS Statistical Mapping Unit in Canberra.

R.A. Crockett Deputy Commonwealth Statistician April 1994



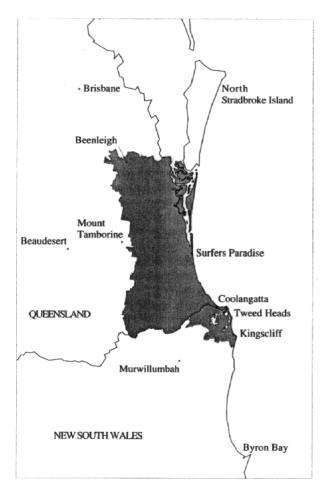
INTRODUCTION

This atlas contains maps illustrating a range of social, economic and demographic characteristics of the population of the Gold Coast region, using data collected in the 1991 Census of Population and Housing. A commentary accompanying each map briefly analyses these characteristics and highlights the main features.

The region mapped in this atlas is the Gold Coast region, which includes the legal local government areas (LGAs) of Gold Coast City and Albert Shire. It also embraces the statistical local area (SLA) of Tweed Shire – (Part A).

The Gold Coast region consists of rural and urban areas from Kingscliff in the south to Beenleigh in the north and the hinterland to the west. The total population of the mapped area (of persons counted at home) at 6 August 1991 was 292,031.





About the Census

The 1991 Census of Population and Housing aimed at counting every person who spent census night, 6 August 1991, in Australia. This included people in private dwellings, non-private dwellings, camping out, on vessels in or between Australian ports or on overnight transport.

All private dwellings were counted, whether occupied or unoccupied. Occupied non-private dwellings, such as hotels, motels, hospitals and gaols, were also counted.

All people, including visitors and tourists, were counted where they actually spent census night. However, for the purpose of this atlas, visitor counts have been excluded from all maps except the Population change and Visitors to the Gold Coast region maps. In other words, the remaining maps in this atlas represent only the characteristics of persons who were counted at home.

Statistical boundaries

In this atlas topics are mapped by census collection districts (CDs), which are the smallest geographic areas used for collection and dissemination of census data. In towns and cities there are between 200 and 300 dwellings in each CD and where possible they have easily identified boundaries, such as streets and waterways.

Census CDs are the basic building blocks for the aggregation of statistics to larger areas, such as SLAs and LGAs. As can be seen from the maps, CDs vary in shape and size.

Statistical local areas consist of one or more CDs and in aggregate cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.

Local government areas are geographic areas under the responsibility of an incorporated local government council. In the Gold Coast region, these local government councils are Gold Coast City, Albert Shire and Tweed Shire.

Interpreting the maps

The topics covered by this atlas are mapped using different colours to represent different proportions of the mapped characteristic. With the exception of three topics (Population, Median age and Persons per dwelling), the maps express the various characteristics as a *percentage* of the relevant population for each CD.

For example, with the map on unemployed people, the number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the total labour force is mapped. By contrast the population map shows the population distribution in terms of *density*, that is the number of people per square kilometre.

Map symbols

Maps are oriented conventionally with north to the top of the page, and each map is accompanied by a legend showing the values and colour for each class of the mapped data.

The maps also show major roads, selected coastline as well as CD boundaries.

The following symbols are used on the maps:

Census collection districts

Major roads

Coastline

Class interval selection

Selecting appropriate class intervals for each map is a key aspect of representing statistical data. A balance needs to be reached between the level of information to be presented and the most appropriate method of presentation.

In this atlas, this balance has been achieved by using five classes per map and selecting class intervals that reflect the distribution of the data.

Dot charts

Each map in this atlas is supplemented by a dot chart which presents further information for the same topic. However, while the region mapped covers the CDs within the Gold Coast region, the data represented by the dot charts refer to the SLAs that comprise the Gold Coast region.

Dot charts are produced by ranking the numeric data for these SLAs from largest to smallest. While the maps present data as a *percentage* of the relevant population for each CD, the dot charts display *absolute* values for SLAs.

For a map of SLAs, see the SLA reference map at the back of the atlas.

Non-residential and farm land

In the preparation of these maps no distinction has been drawn between residential land and non-residential and farm land within mapped areas. The census data are assumed to be homogeneous, or evenly spread, across the entire CD, even across large parklands and industrial estates, etc.

Reference maps

Reference maps are included at the back of the atlas showing:

- derived postcodes based on CD boundaries overlaid on SLA boundaries and
- · statistical local areas.

Further information

The information paper Census 91 – Guide to Products and Services (2910.0) describes standard products available from the 1991 Census in publications and on microfiche, magnetic tape, floppy disk and compact disc.

The information paper *How Australia Takes a Census* (2903.0) describes the history and processes involved in the planning and conduct of the census. It includes a copy of the 1991 Census Household Form.

The 1991 Census Dictionary (2901.0) is a basic guide to understanding the terminology and concepts of the census.

The 1991 Census Dictionary of Classifications (2904.0) shows output classifications used in the 1991 Census – an essential complement to customised matrixes.

CDATA91 is a microcomputer product that provides a quick and efficient way to use census data. It contains community profile data and digitised census boundaries. The software includes facilities for producing maps and tables of census data.

Many of the characteristics mapped in this atlas are interrelated, but it is not possible to identify all these interrelationships in the maps. Additional detail about these interrelationships may be available in cross-classified matrixes.

Readers requiring further information about this atlas or other census data should contact:

Information inquiries

Phone (07) 222 6351.

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years or older counted at home. This group greatly outnumbered people earning \$50,000 or more a year, who represented only 2.2 per cent (2.6 per cent for Queensland) of people aged 15 years or older who were counted at home.

Visitors

There were 37,258 visitors to the Gold Coast region on census night, 6 August 1991, whose usual residence was outside the Gold Coast region. Visitor numbers are relatively low due to the census being conducted at a time when people would be most likely to be counted at home. Therefore, the visitors counted on census night should be treated as a snapshot of visitors at that time of year. As expected, high concentrations of visitors were found in suburbs along the coastline, where extensive tourist accommodation facilities and attractions are located. Low percentages on the other hand were predominantly recorded in areas further from the coastline with minimal tourist accommodation.

URBAN AND RURAL STRUCTURE

The tourist nature of the coastal part of the region has had a direct effect on the urban structure of the area. The most significant feature of the Gold Coast is the dominance of the coastline and its beaches. While concentrated high and medium density development has continued along the coastline, residential and other development associated with an expanding population has rapidly spread inland towards the hinterland townships of Nerang and Mudgeeraba as well as surrounding rural areas.

ECONOMY

The hospitality industry is by far the most important industry in the region in terms of employment generation. Over the years, the hospitality industry has continued to grow as a result of higher levels of domestic tourism and, more recently, increased international tourism. In the Gold Coast region, of all employed persons counted at home on census night, 21.9 per cent worked in the wholesale and retail trade and 14.8 per cent in recreation, personal and other services. This compares with 19.8 per cent and 7.7 per cent, respectively, for Queensland. While the hospitality industry is primarily centred in Gold Coast City there is also significant activity in the Albert and Tweed Shires.

Parts of the rest of the region, especially the northern area around Beenleigh, reap little direct economic benefit from the impact of the hospitality industry. These areas are more affected by the industrial and economic activities emanating from the Brisbane metropolitan area.

Associated with the growth in the hospitality industry has been the development of the infrastructure required to support this industry and the people working in it. The area has a strong finance, property and business services industry employing 12.7 per cent of employed persons counted at

home on census night. The equivalent figure for Queensland was 9.9 per cent.

The need to house the growing population in the area and the continuing growth in commercial development is fuelling the construction industry. Considerable residential housing development has taken place in recent years in many parts of the region. At the time of the 1991 Census the construction industry employed 10.3 per cent of employed persons counted at home (6.8 per cent for Queensland).

Other significant industries in the area included community services and manufacturing with 13 per cent and 9.9 per cent, respectively, of employed persons counted at home. In comparison, Queensland recorded 17.1 percent for community services and 11.1 percent for manufacturing.

THE FUTURE

The Gold Coast and hinterland as well as the surrounding region is experiencing significant population growth. This population growth is expected to continue, given the movement of population from southern States to south-east Queensland. Much of this growth is predicted to occur in the corridor between Beenleigh and Nerang, as a result of expanding populations in Brisbane and the Gold Coast. The rail link extension from Beenleigh to Robina, due to open in 1995, is likely to be instrumental in accelerating the growth of the area and in establishing a closer relationship between the Gold Coast and Brisbane.

From recent trends it appears that the population growth in the region may continue to be concentrated in the older age groups. This is likely to impact on the economic and industrial profile of the region as well as on the range of community services demanded of local and State governments. Tourism is expected to remain the most important industry of the region, especially near the coast, and will continue to generate economic benefits for the region as a whole. There is no doubt that the south-east corner of Queensland will continue to be in demand as a tourist and residential destination.

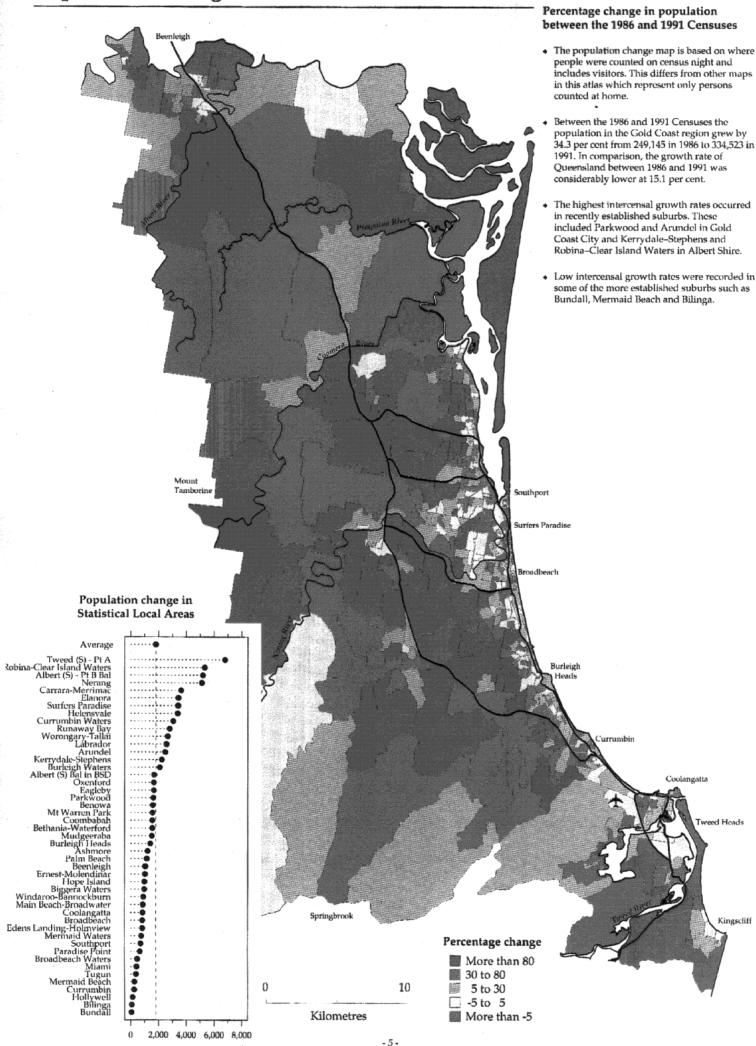
This social atlas presents, at a glance, a snapshot of the key social, demographic and economic characteristics of this rapidly changing region.

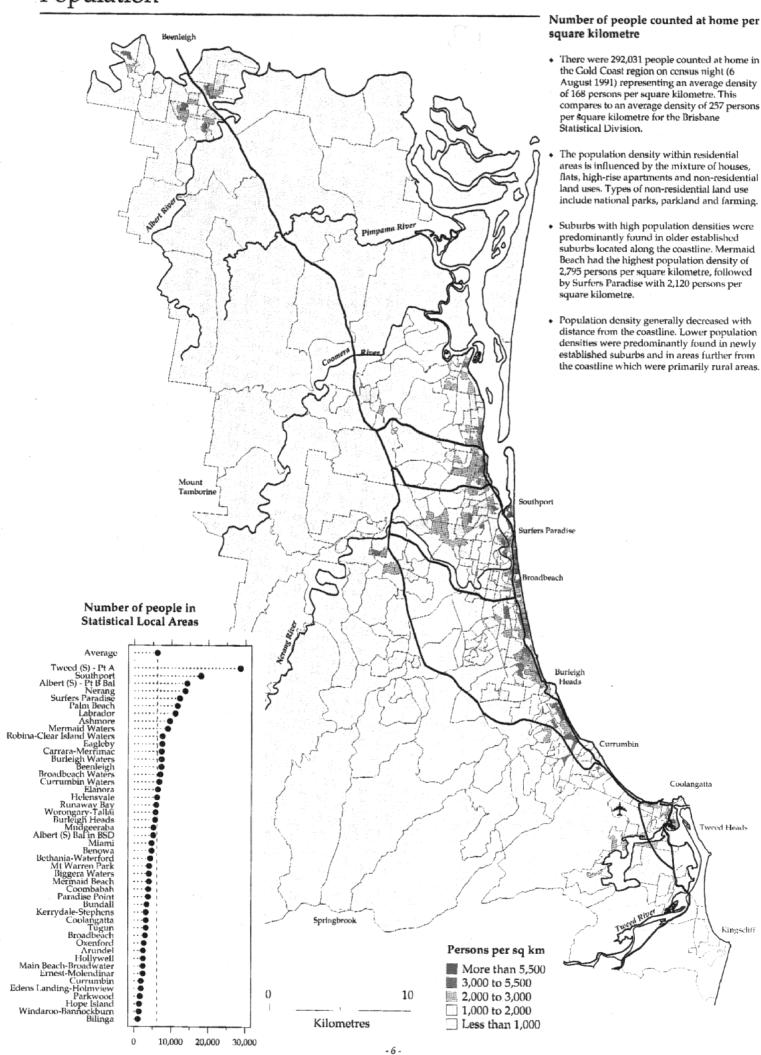
BIBLIOGRAPHY

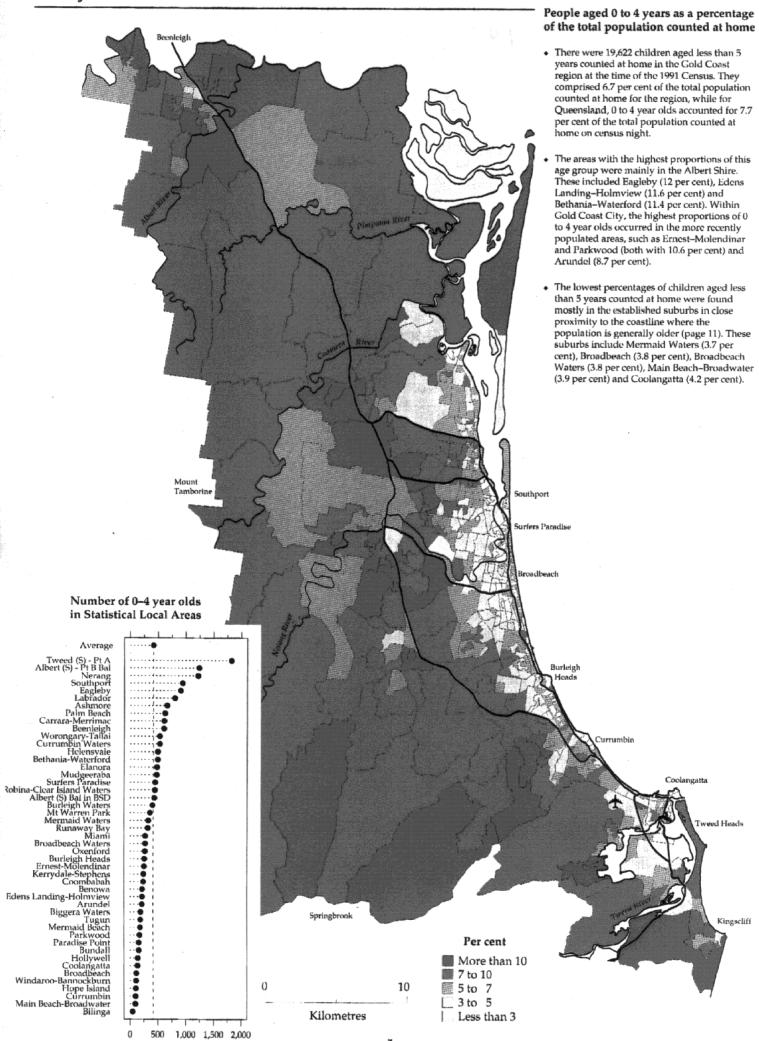
Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1991 Census of Population and Housing.

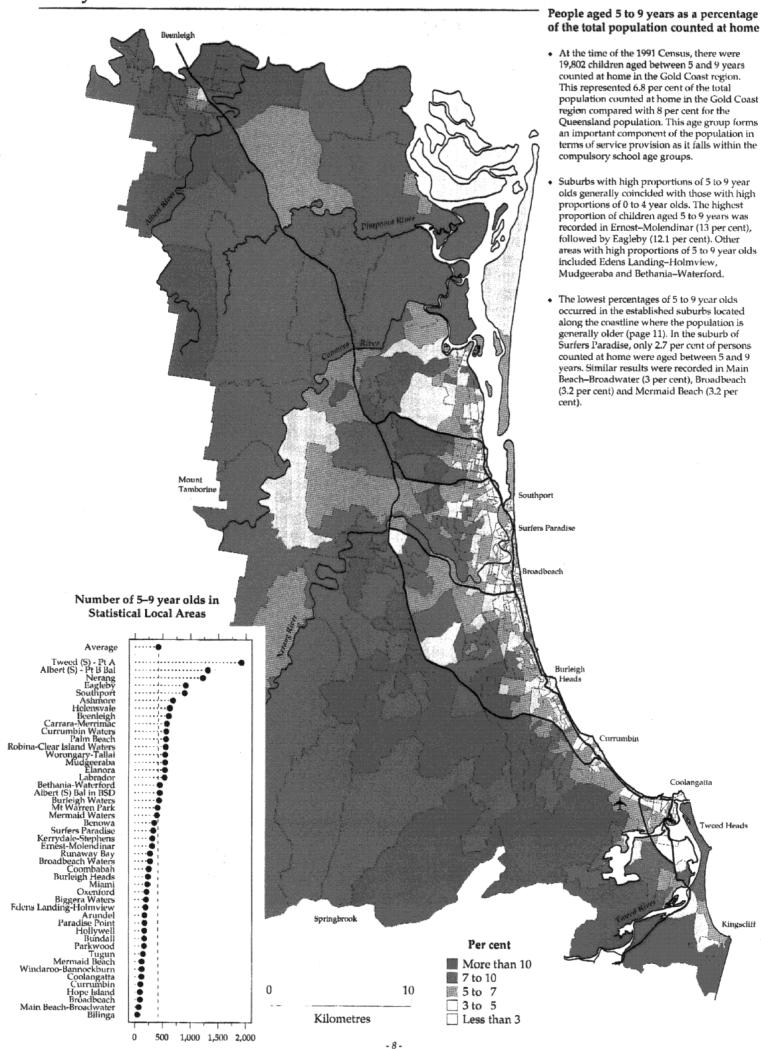
¹ M. Jones, A Sunny Place for Shady People — The Model for a Future Australia, Allen and Unwin, Sydney, 1986, p 9.

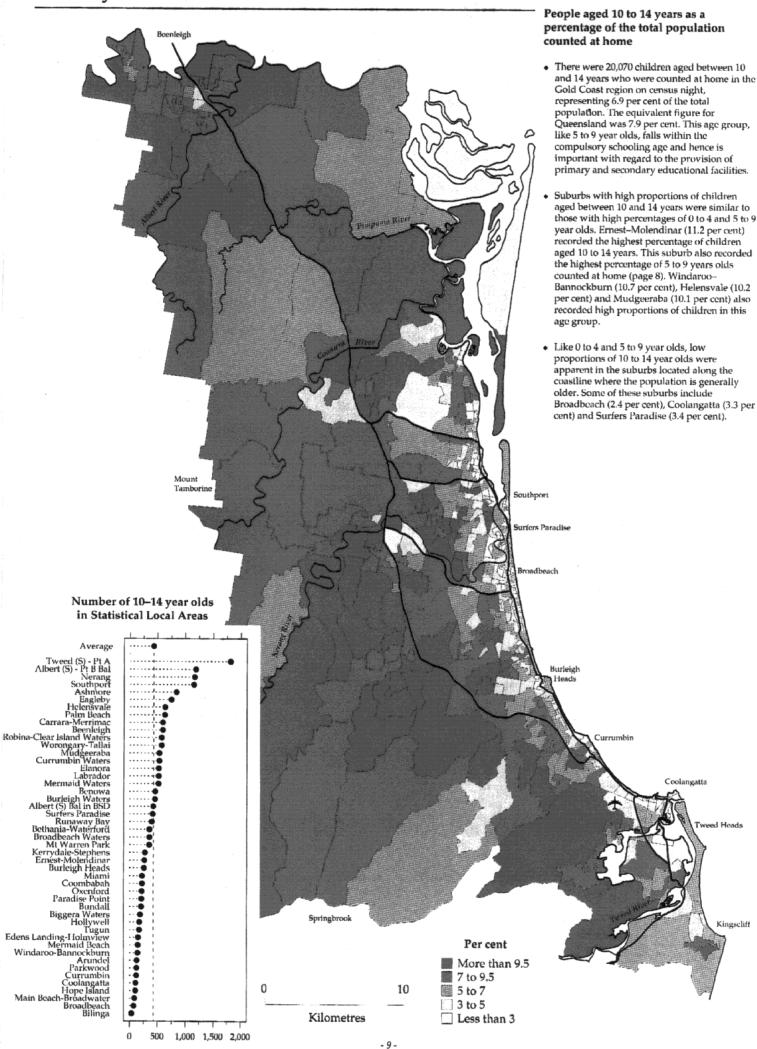
² M. Jones, Country of Five Rivers — Albert Shire 1788-1988, Allen and Unwin, Sydney, 1988, pp 2–18.

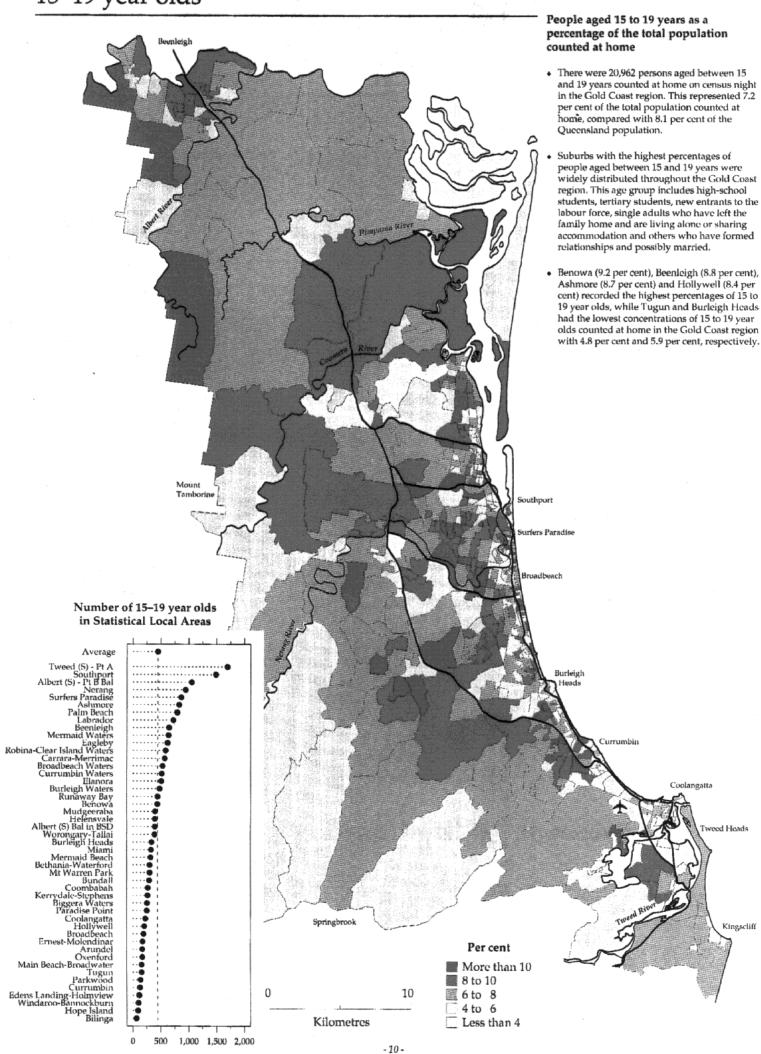


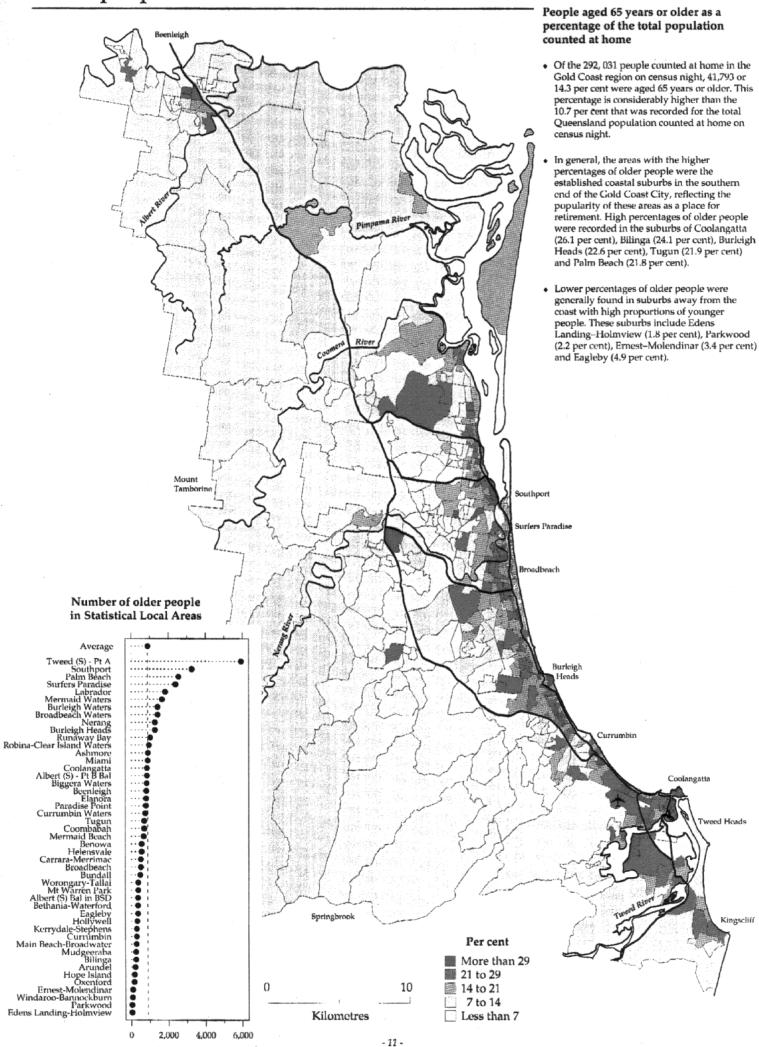


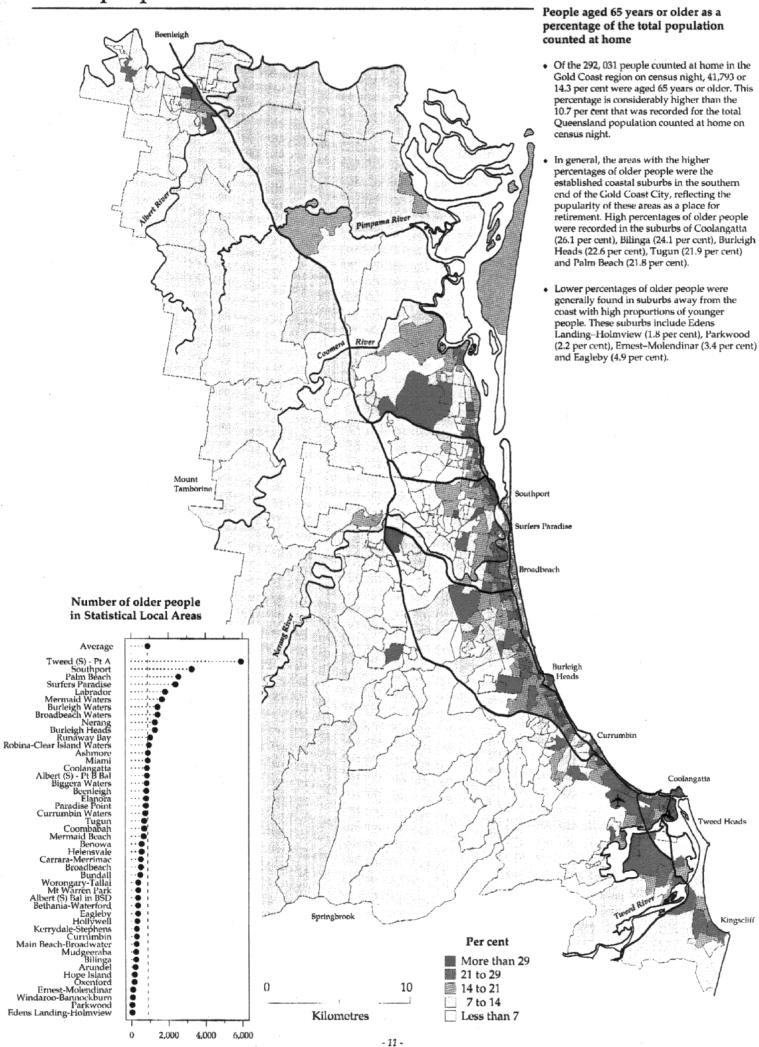




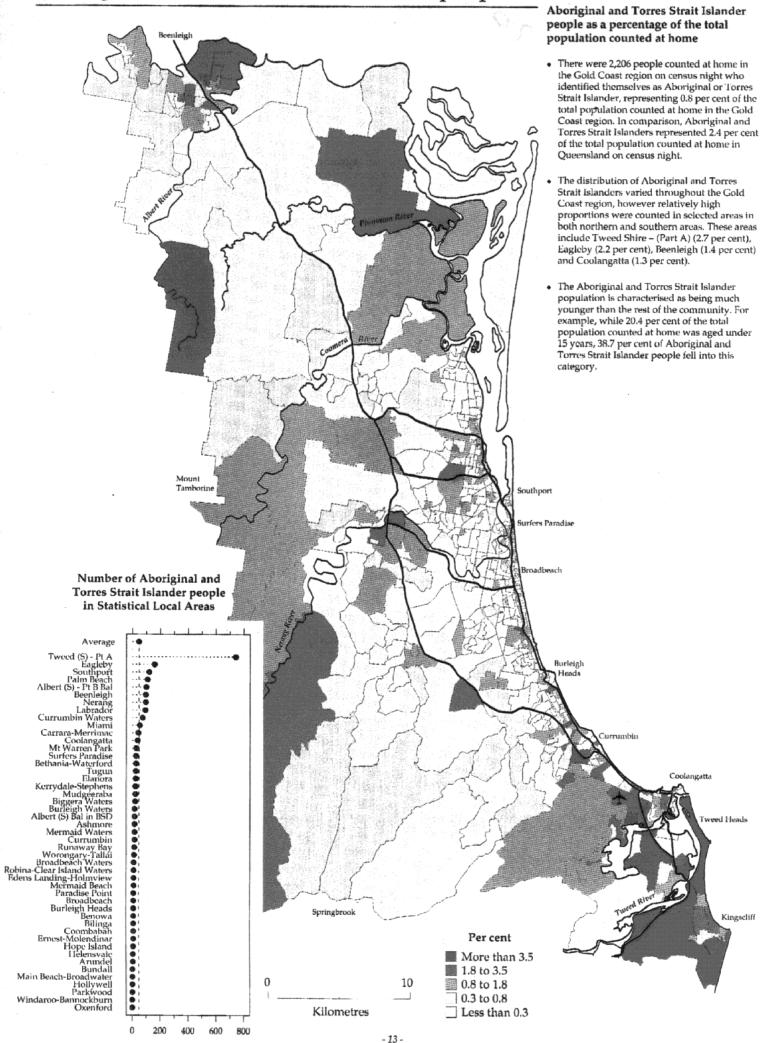


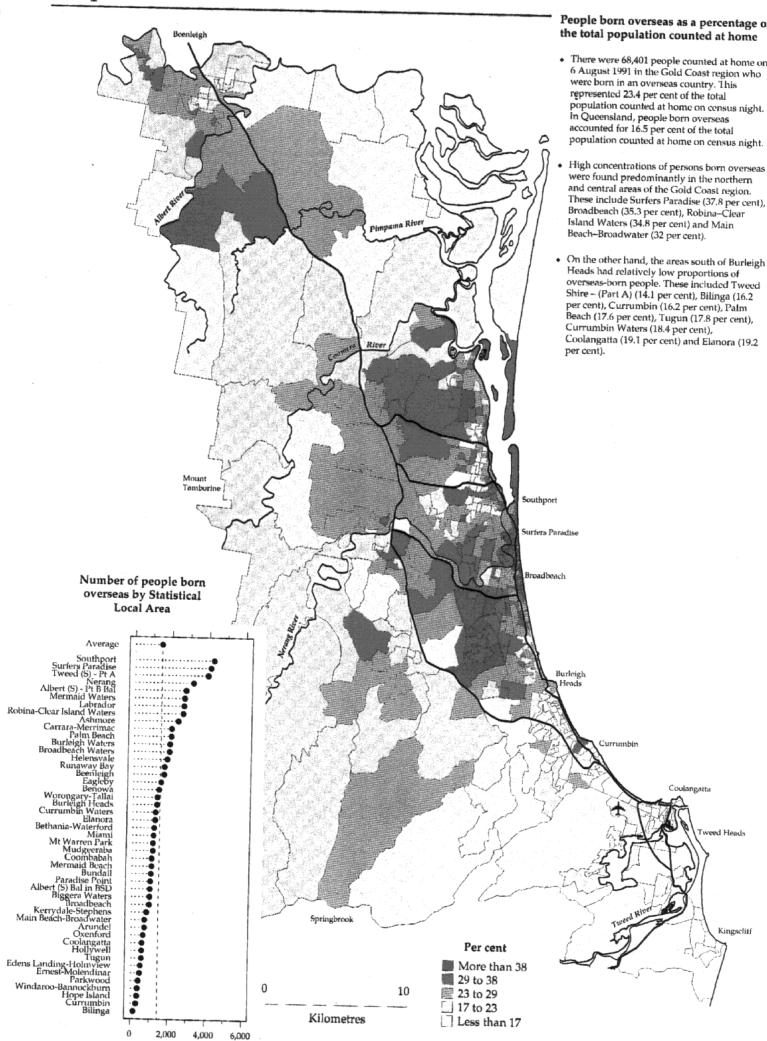




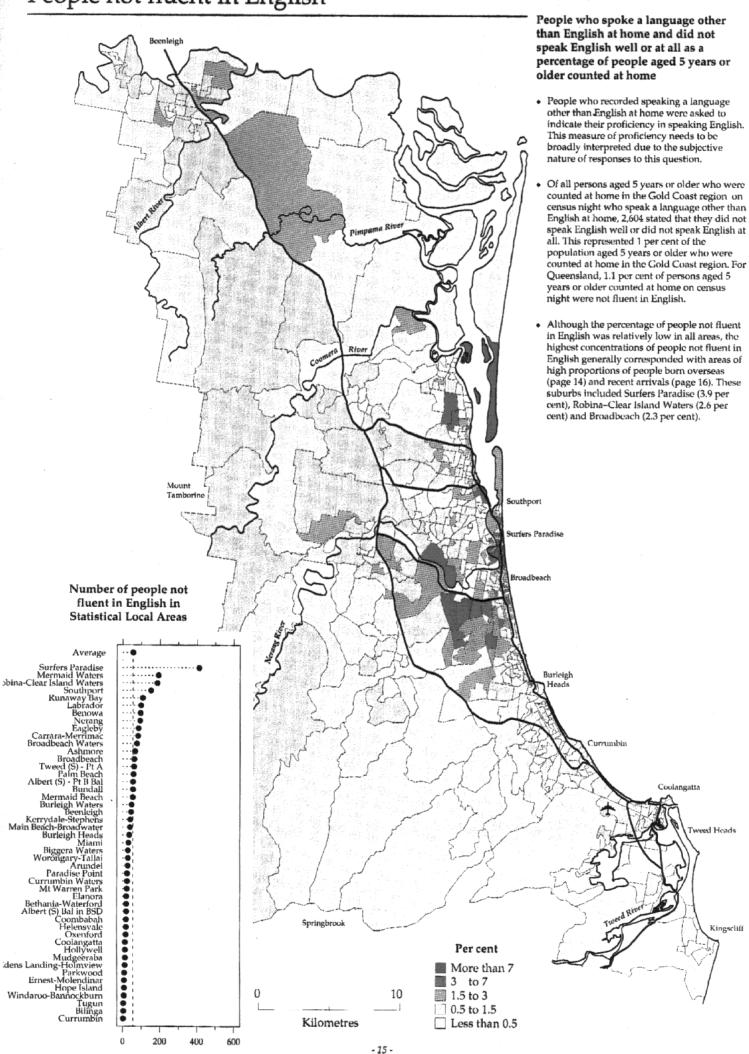


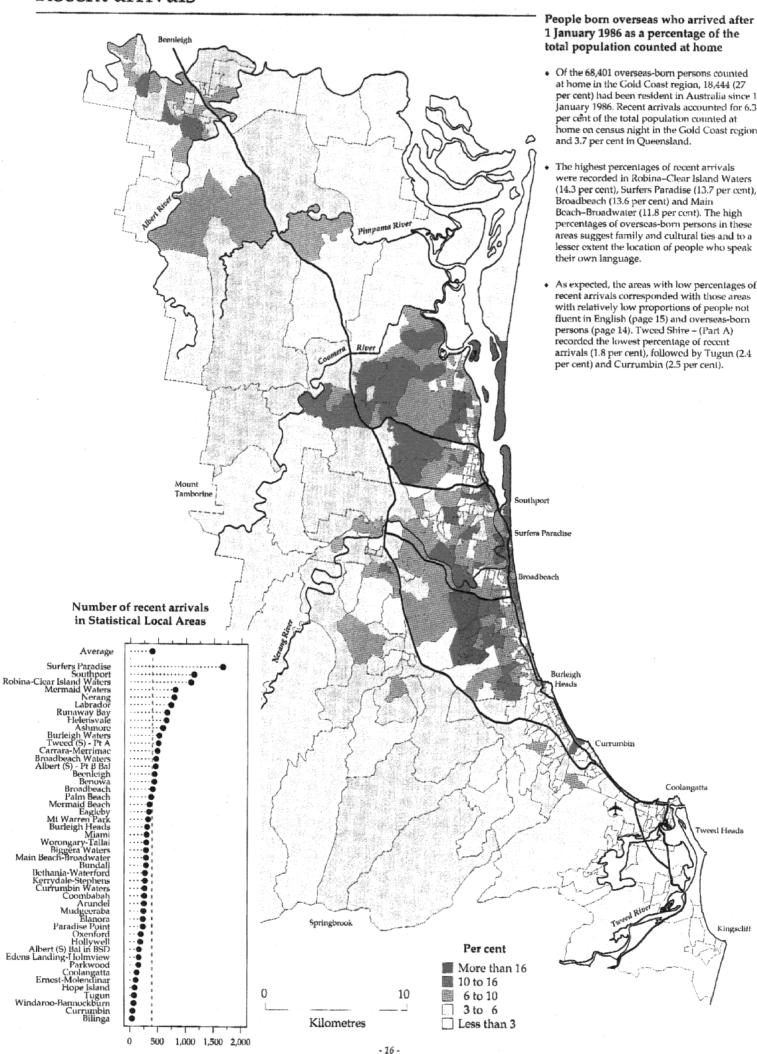
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

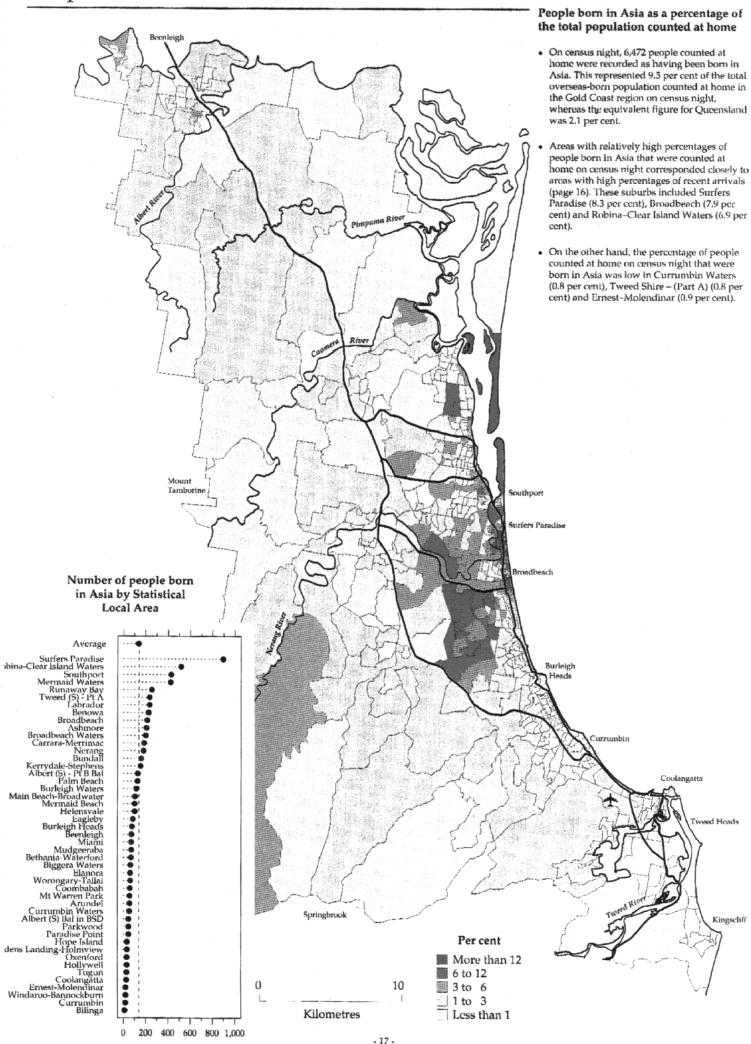




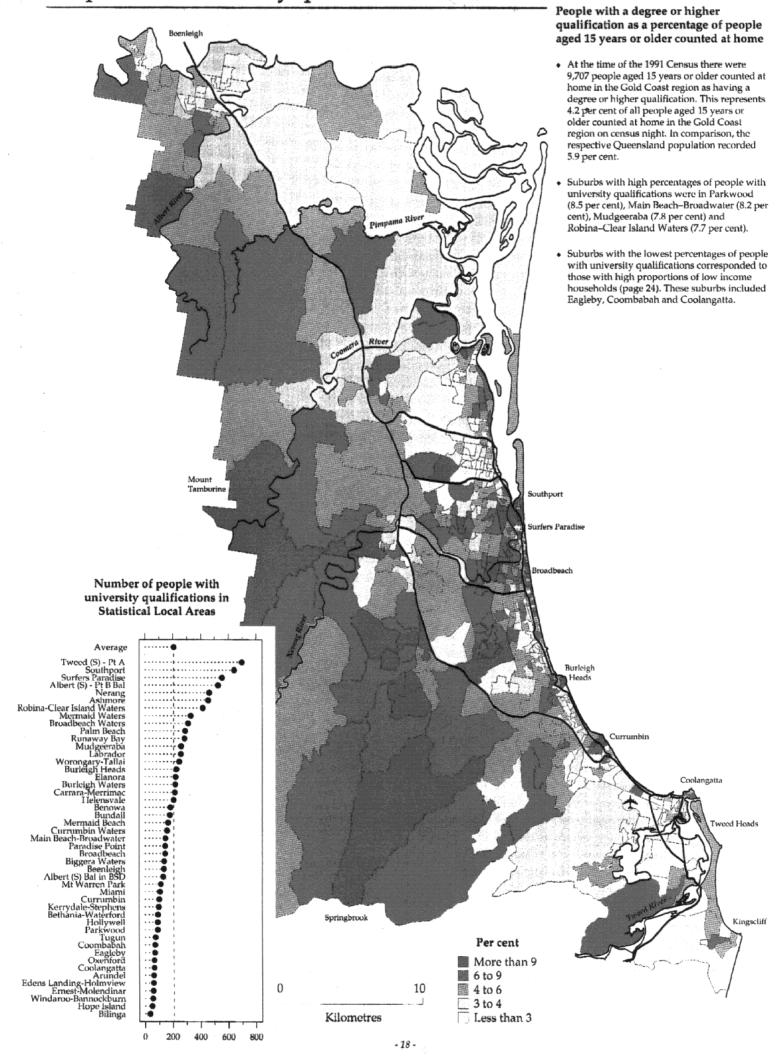
People not fluent in English



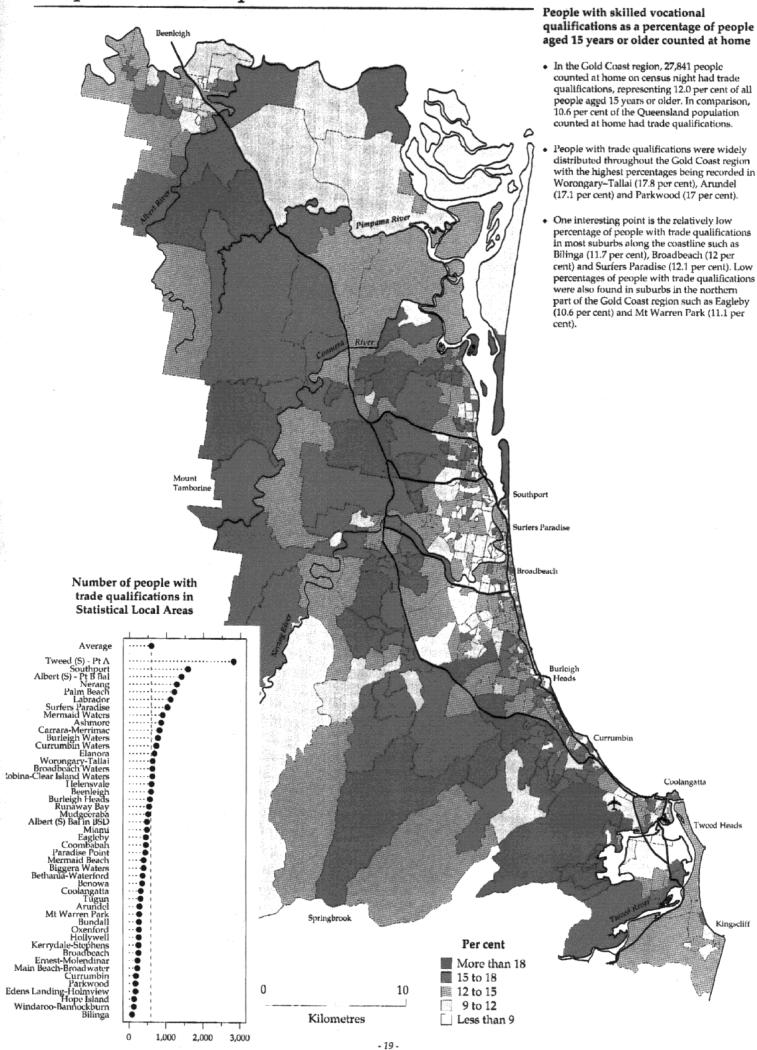




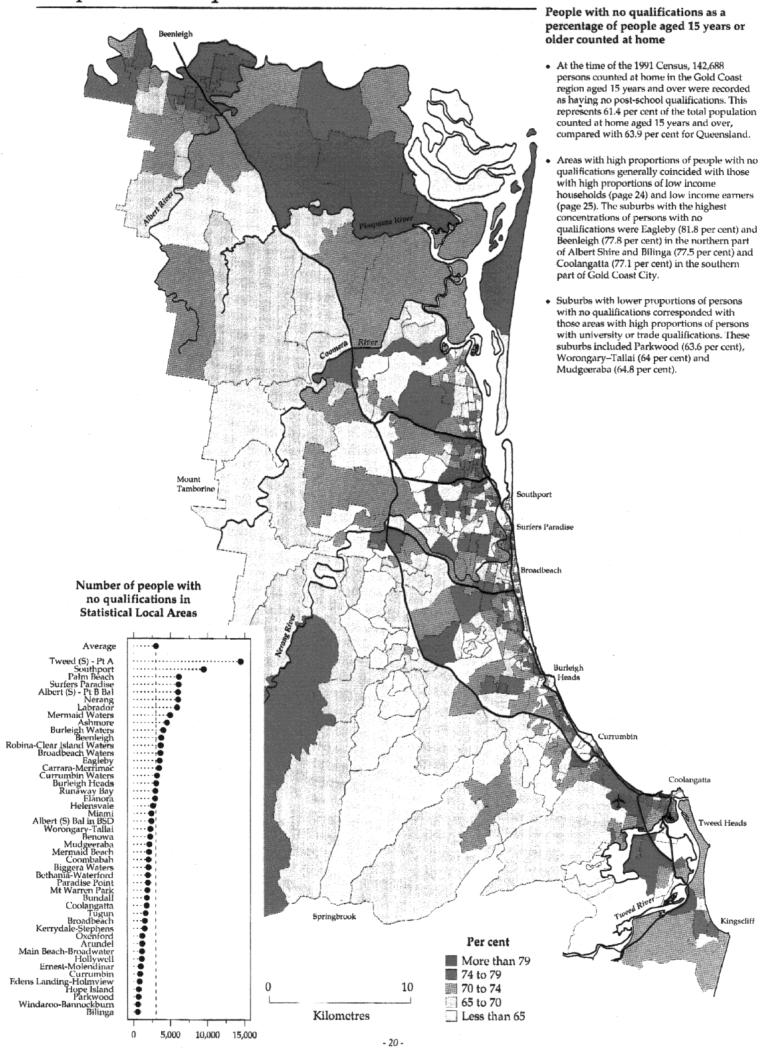
People with university qualifications

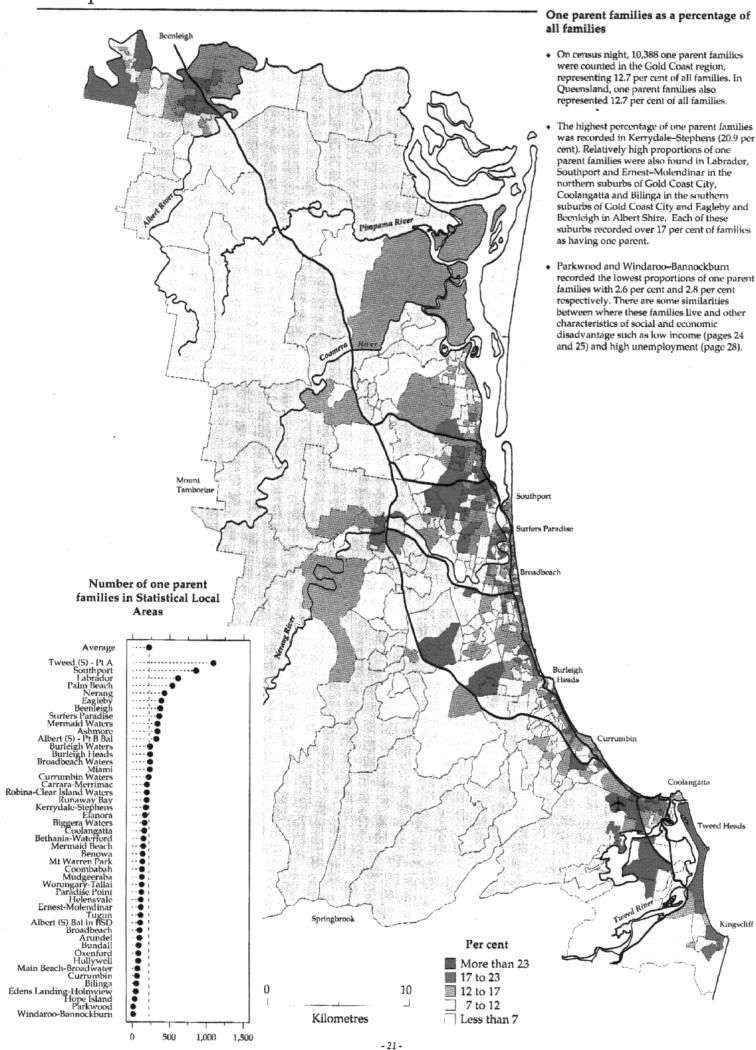


People with trade qualifications

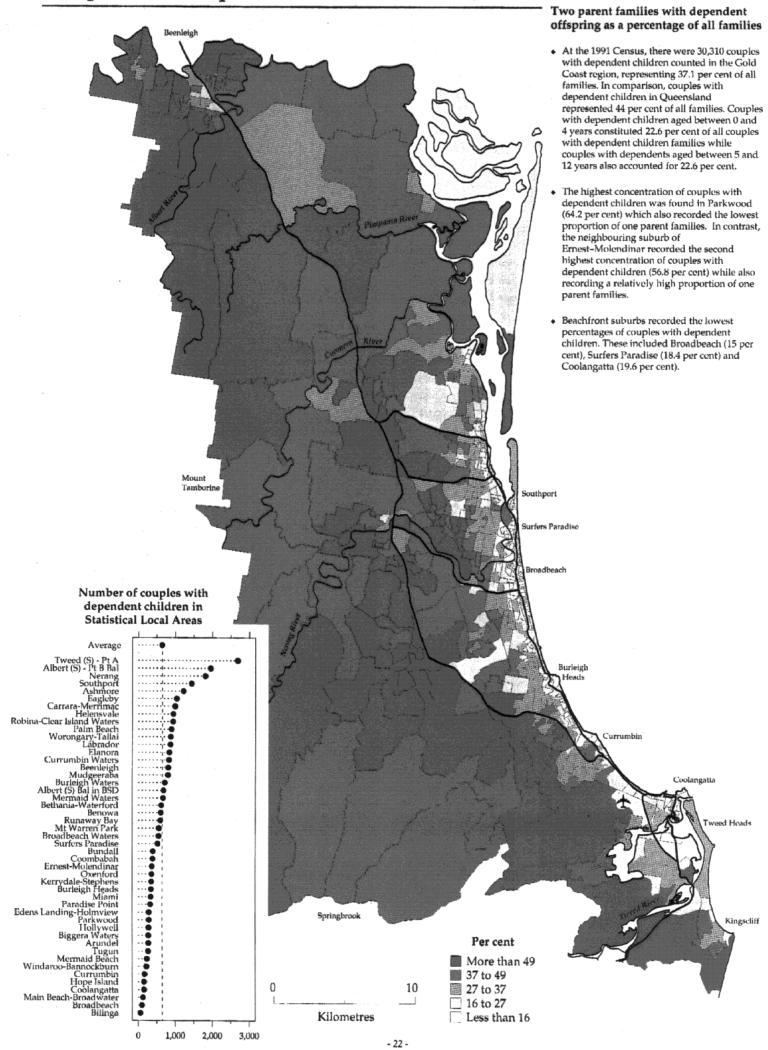


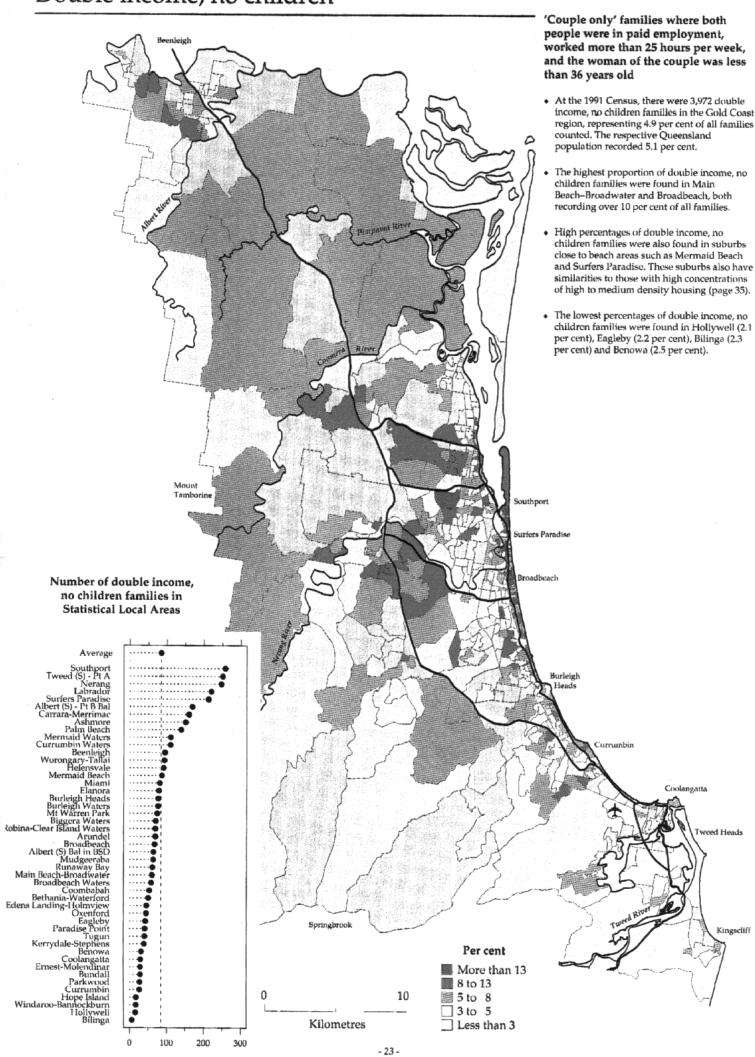
People with no qualifications

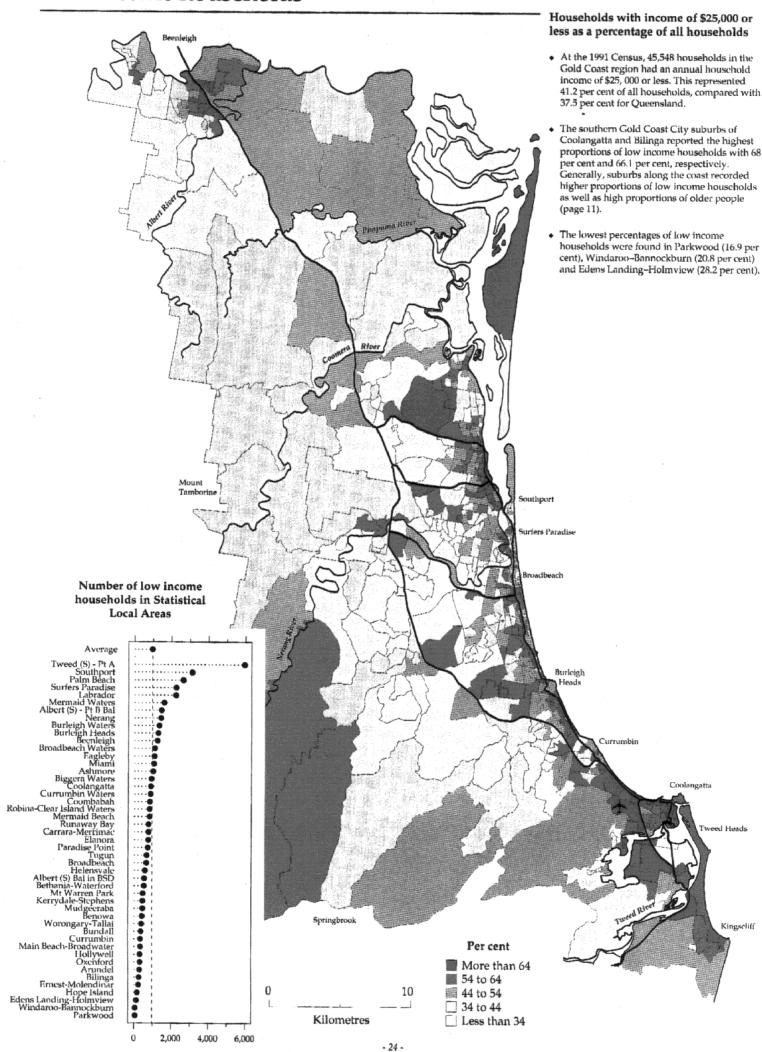


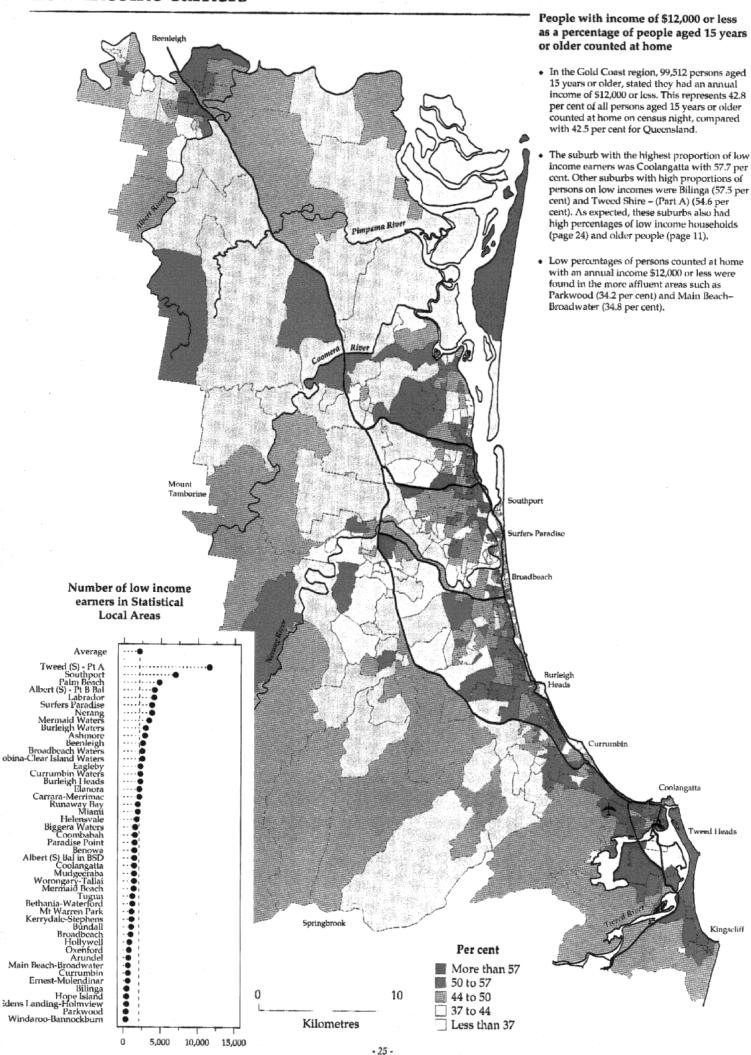


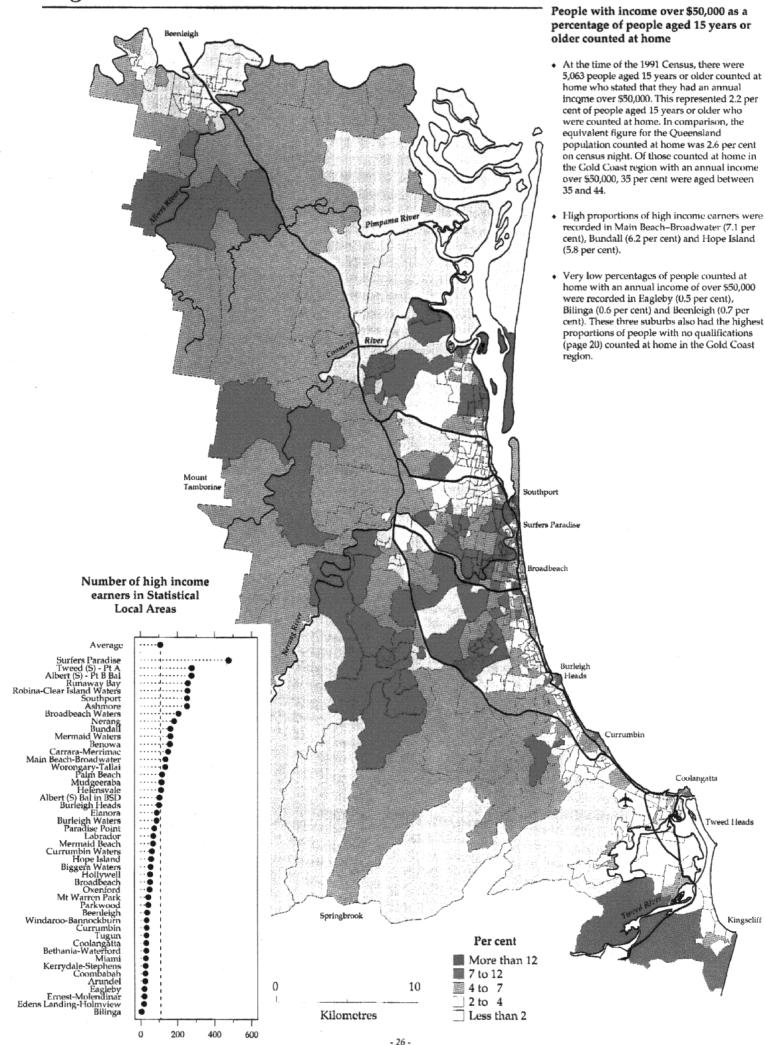
Couples with dependent children

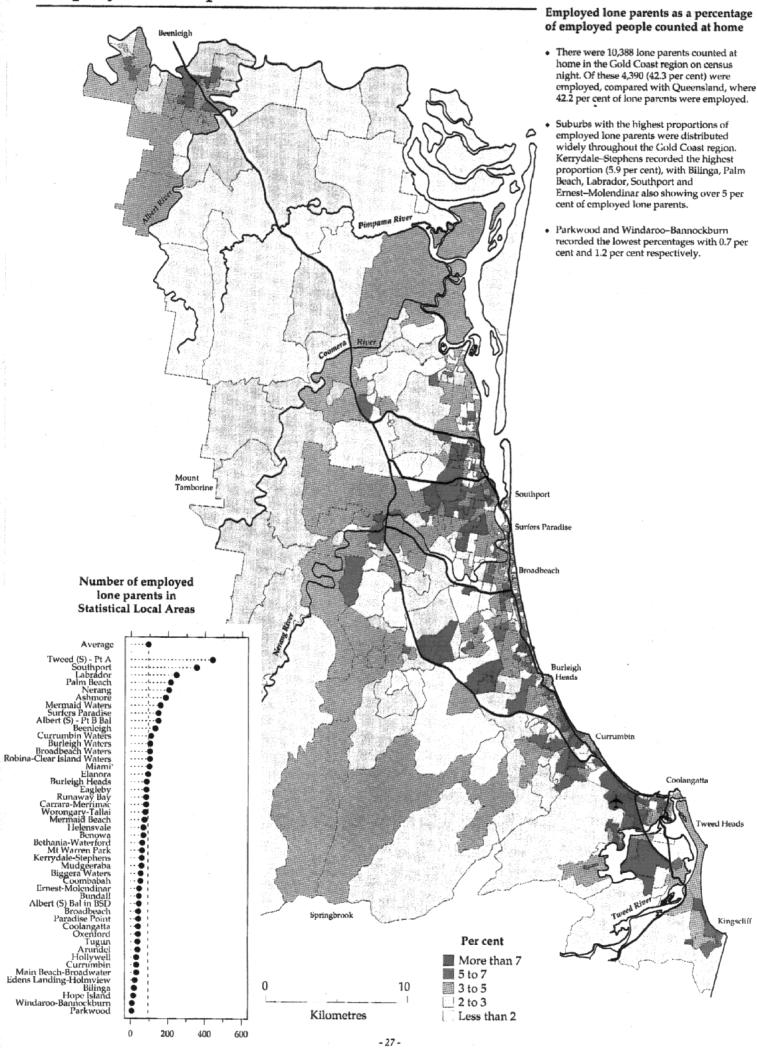


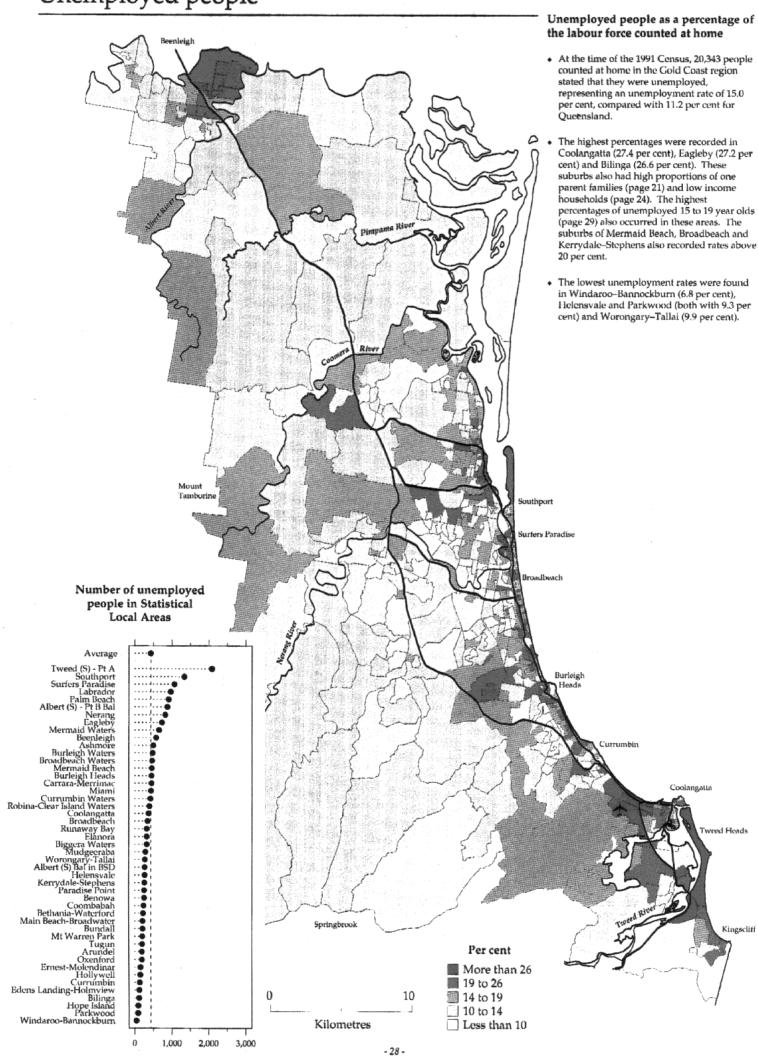




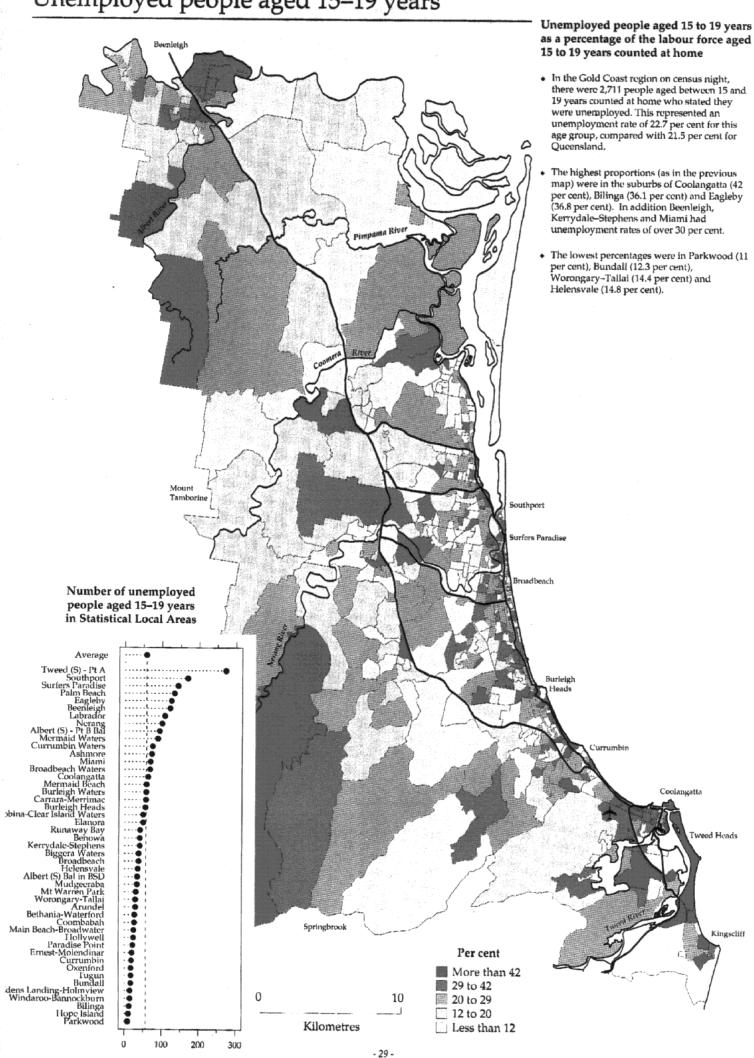


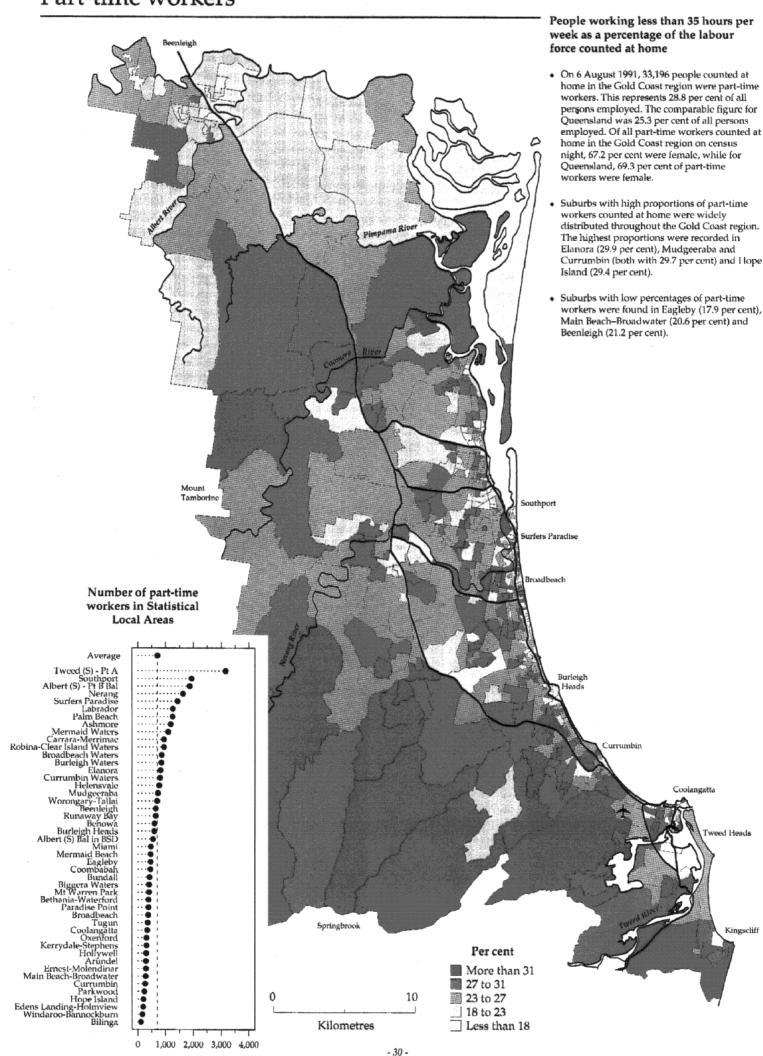


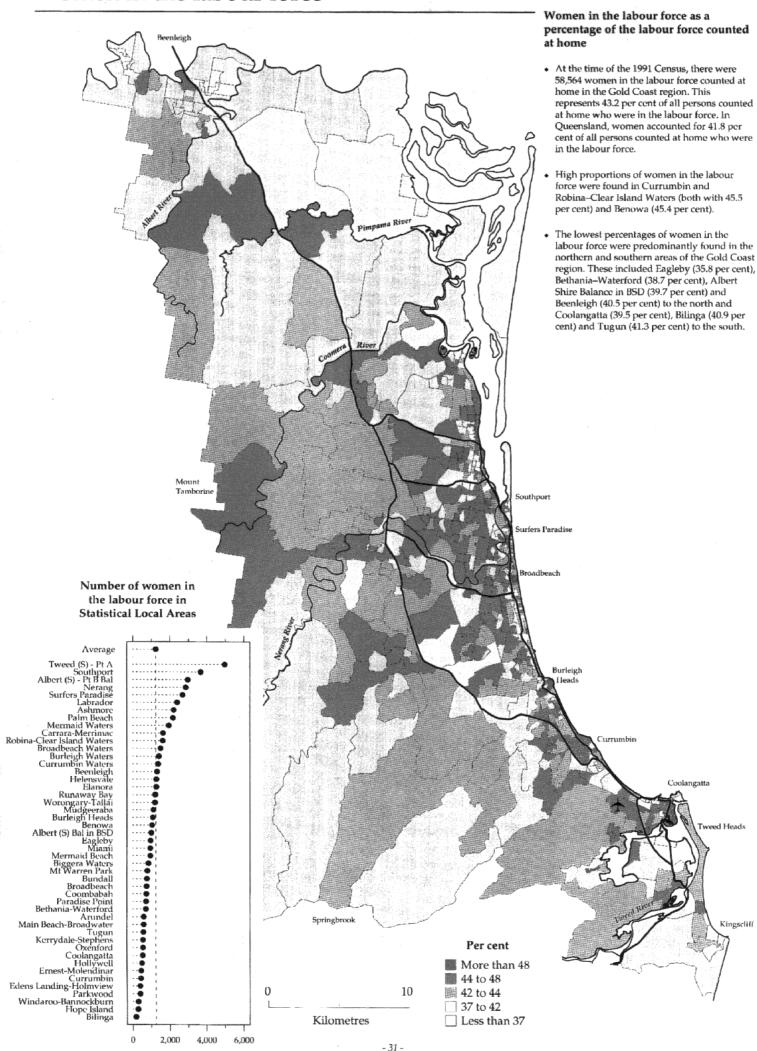




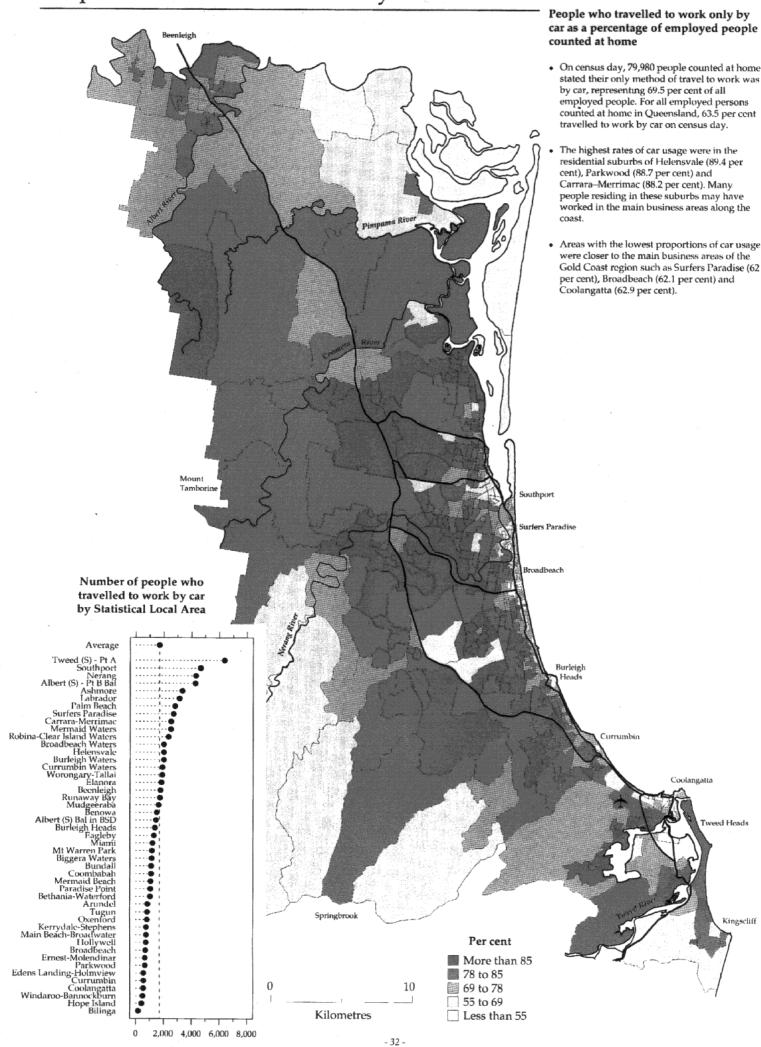
Unemployed people aged 15-19 years



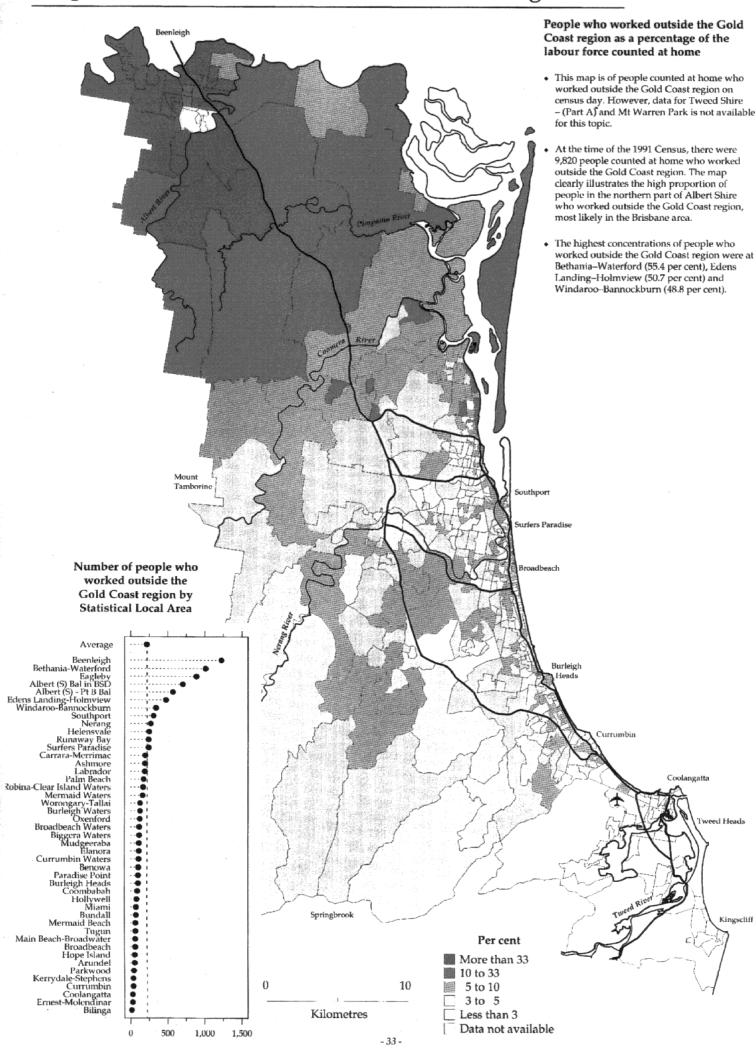


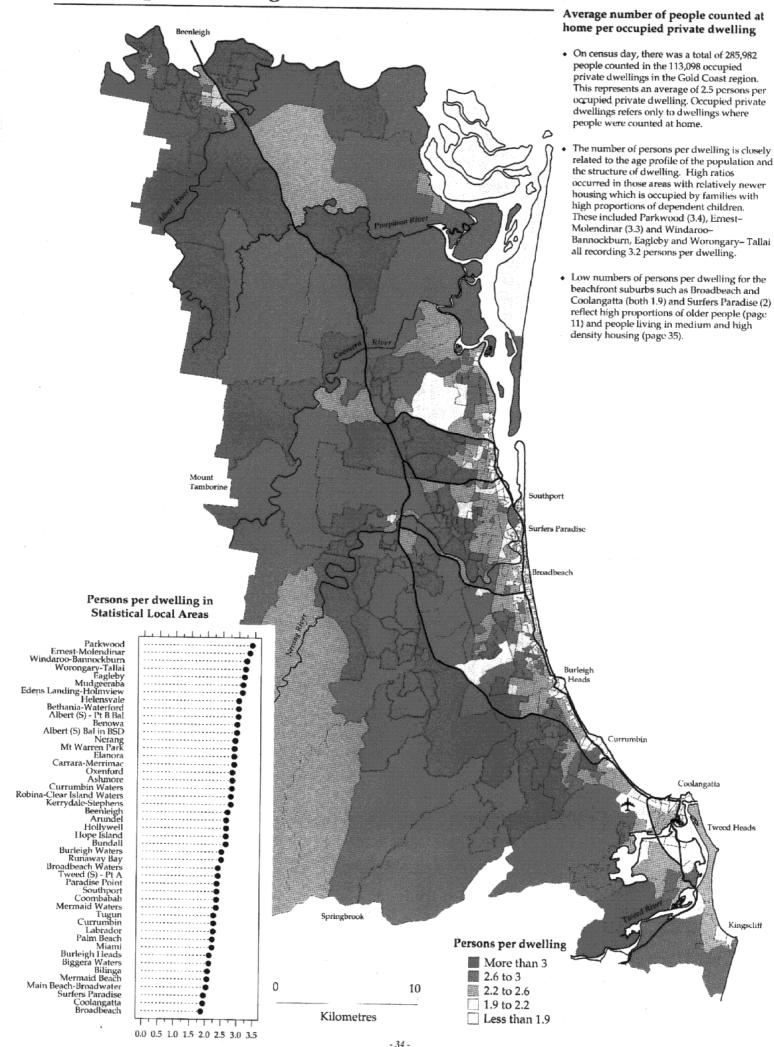


People who travelled to work by car

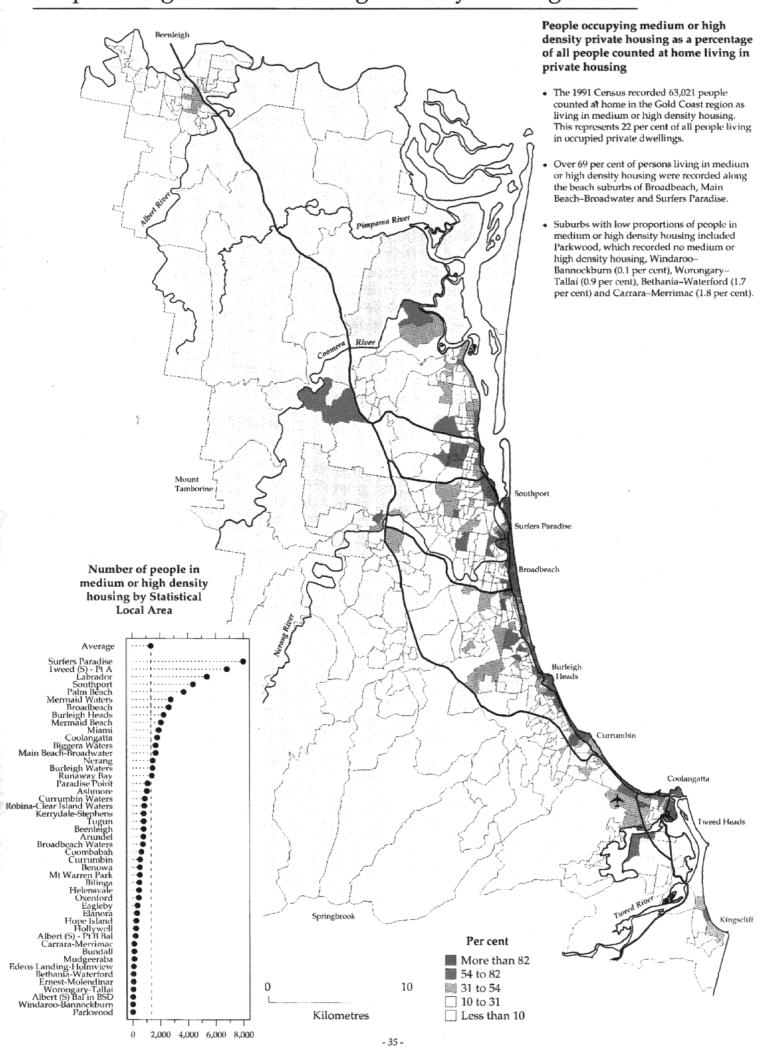


People who worked outside the Gold Coast region

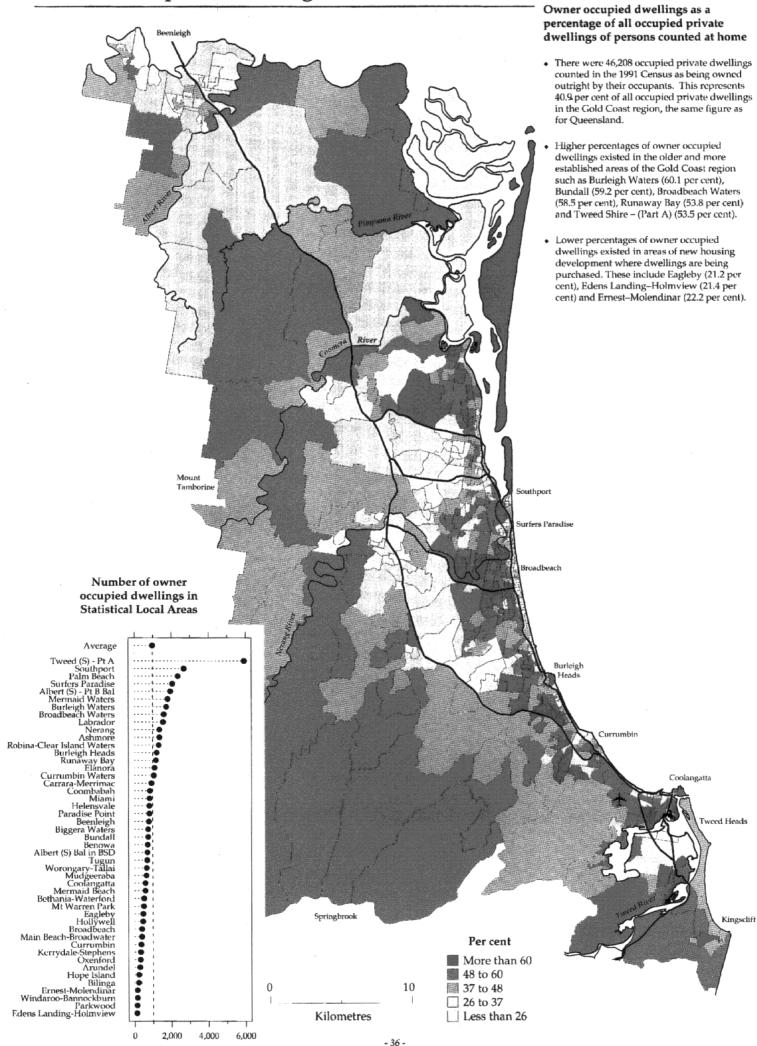


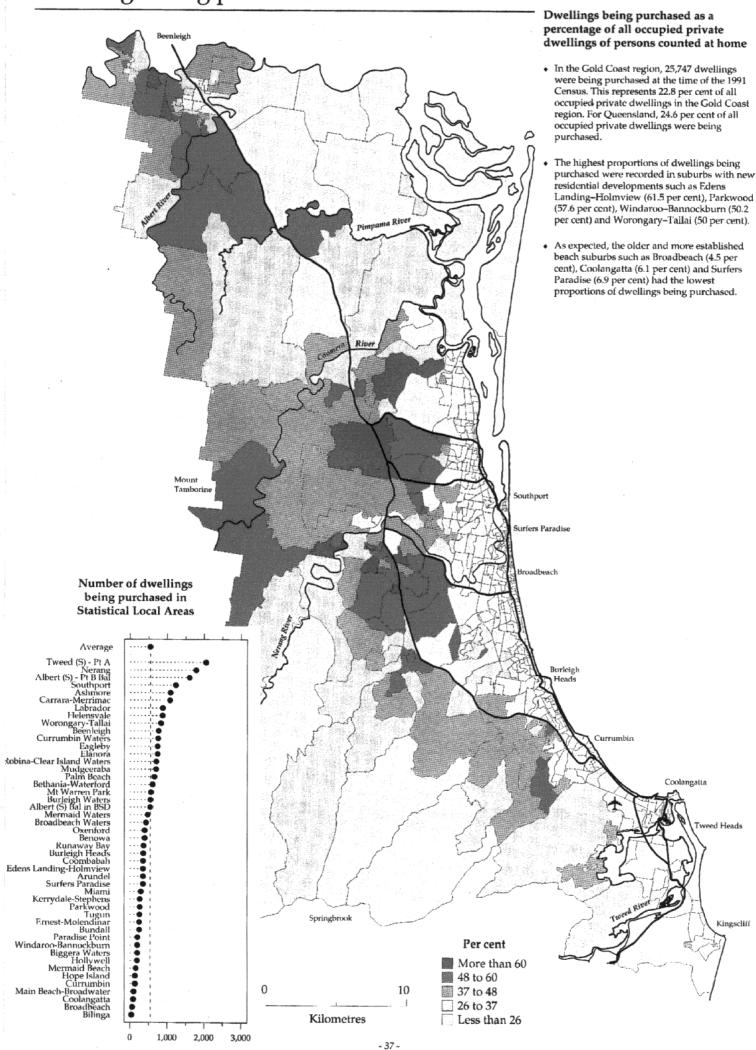


People living in medium or high density housing

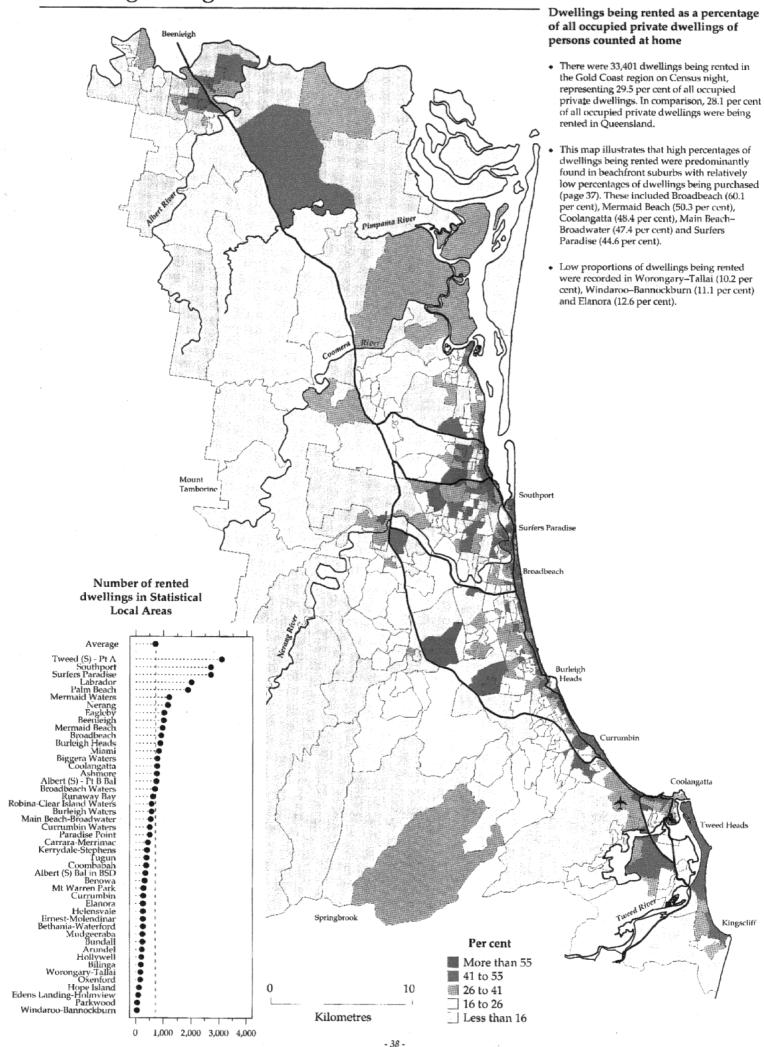


Owner occupied dwellings

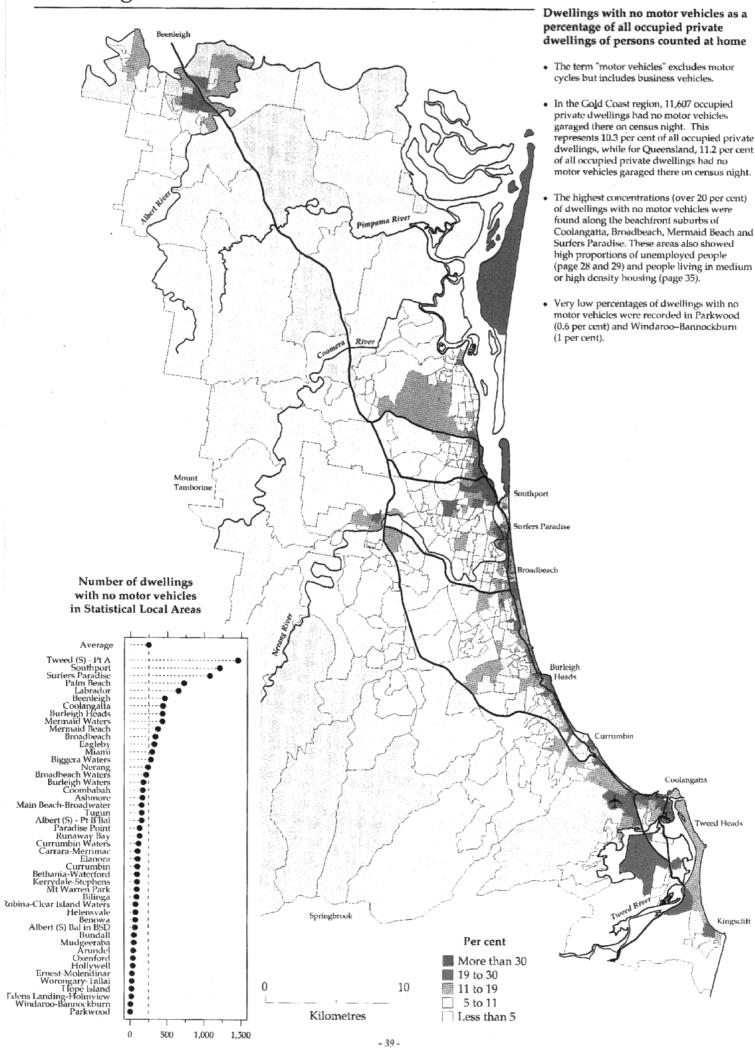




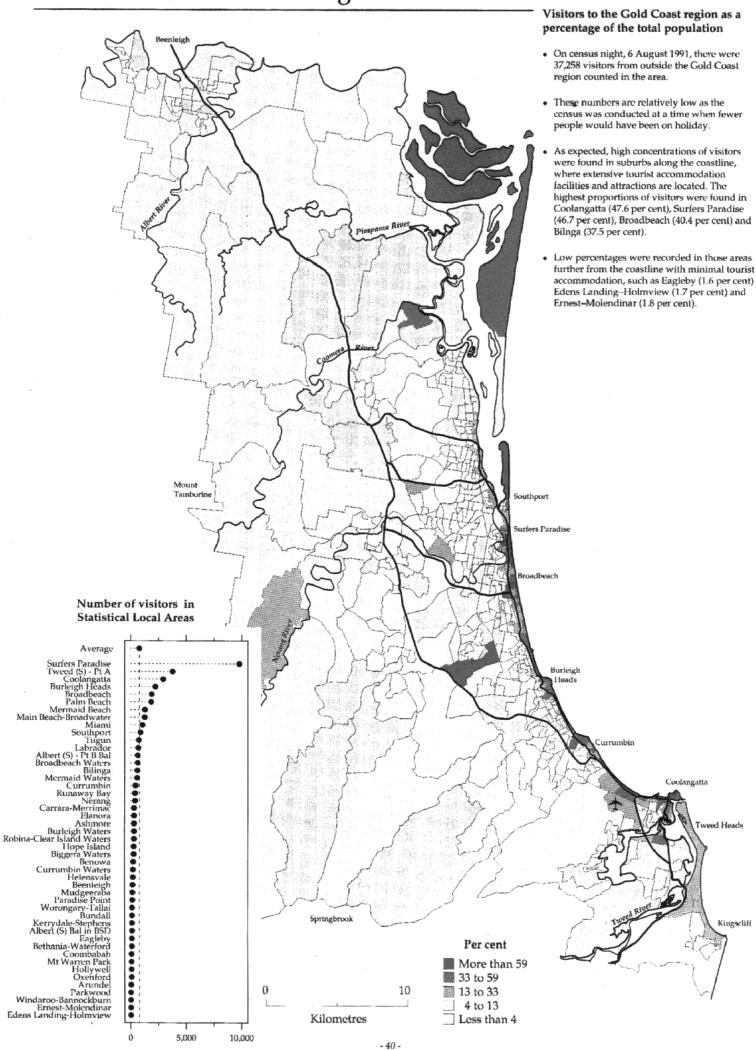
Dwellings being rented



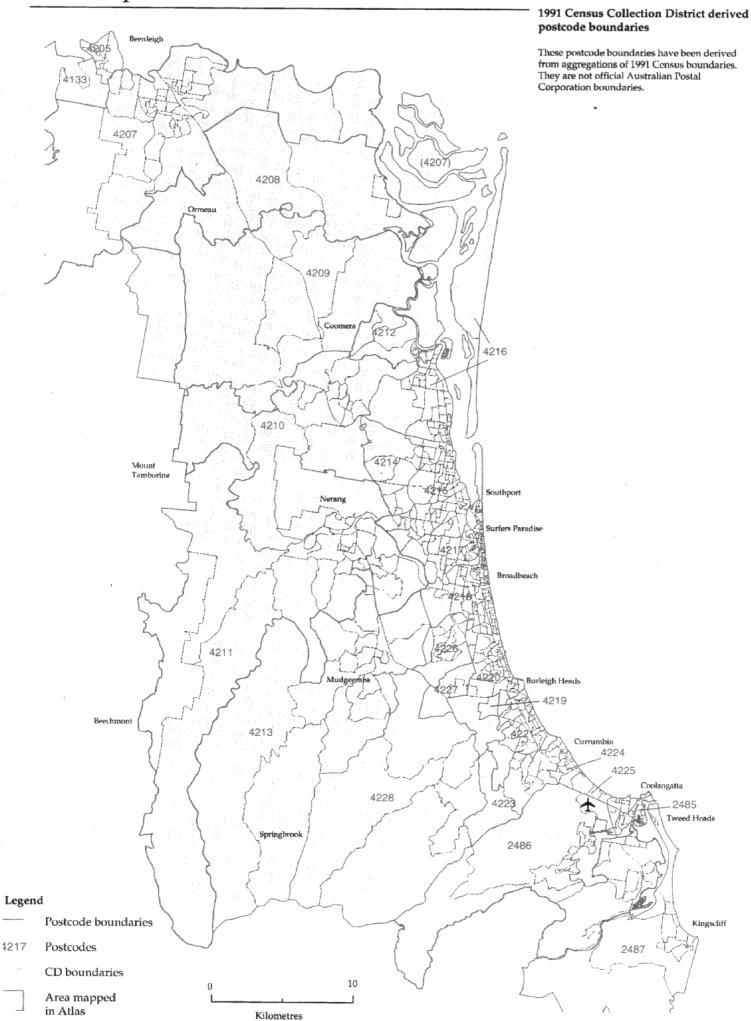
Dwellings with no motor vehicles



Visitors to the Gold Coast region



Derived postcodes



Areas contained within the Gold Coast region as at the Census of Population and Housing, 6 August 1991 0058 0081 0 0063 0064 0083 3492 3482 3485 3452 Mount Tamborine 3493 Southport Surfers Paradise 3503 -3465 0098 3462 - 3486 3488 0086 Burleigh Heads Beechmont 0091 Currumbin 3506 3472 3458 Coolangatta Tweed Heads Legend Kingscliff SLA boundaries 0086 SLA numbers **CD** Boundaries 10 Kilometres

This map shows the Statistical Local

Alphabetic Key to SLA Numbers

Numeric Key to SLA Numbers

SLA Number	SLA Name	Population counted at home	SLA Number	SLA Name	Population counted at home
0098	Albert (S) - Pt B Bal	14,243		Albert Shire	
0064	Albert (S) Bal in BSD	5,143	0051	Beenleigh *	7,359
3452	Arundel	2,494	0053	Bethania-Waterford	4,375
3453	Ashmore	9,568	0055	Eagleby	7,525
0051	Beenleigh	7,359	0058	Edens Landing-Holmview	1,899
3454	Benowa	4,760	0061	Mt Warren Park	4,109
0053	Bethania-Waterford	4,375	0063	Windaroo-Bannockburn	1,377
3457	Biggera Waters	4,061	0064	Albert (S) Bal in BSD	5,143
3458	Bilinga	1,056	0065	Broadbeach Waters	7,066
3462	Broadbeach	3,030	0067	Burleigh Waters	7,448
0065	Broadbeach Waters	7,066	0072	Carrara-Merrimac	7,449
3465	Bundall	3,485	0074	Currumbin Waters	6,797
3468	Burleigh Heads	5,666	0077	Elanora	6,444
0067	Burleigh Waters	7,448	0082	Helensvale	6,229
0072	Carrara-Merrimac	7,449	0083	Hope Island	1,458
3472	Coolangatta	3,266	0086	Kerrydale-Stephens	3,302
3473	Coombabah	3,927	0088	Mermaid Waters	9,047
3474	Currumbin	1,906	0091	Mudgeeraba	5,253
0074	Currumbin Waters	6,797	0093	Nerang	13,726
0055	Eagleby	7,525	0094	Oxenford	2,688
0058	Edens Landing-Holmview	1,899	0096	Robina-Clear Island Waters	7,628
0077	Elanora	6,444	0097	Worongary-Tallai	5,793
3478	Ernest-Molendinar	2,411	0098	Albert (S) - Pt B Bal	14,243
0082	Helensvale	6,229		, ,	,
3482	Hollywell	2,490		Total	136,358
0083	Hope Island	1,458			,
0086	Kerrydale-Stephens	3,302		Gold Coast City	
3483	Labrador	11,055	3452	Arundel	2,494
3485	Main Beach-Broadwater	2,459	3453	Ashmore	9,568
3486	Mermaid Beach	4,053	3454	Benowa	4,760
- 0088	Mermaid Waters	9,047	3457	Biggera Waters	4,061
3488	Miami	4,761	3458	Bilinga	1,056
0061	Mt Warren Park	4,109	3462	Broadbeach	3,030
0091	Mudgeeraba	5,253	3465	Bundall	3,485
0093	Nerang	13,726	3468	Burleigh Heads	5,666
0094	Oxenford	2,688	3472	Coolangatta	3,266
3491	Palm Beach	11,651	3473	Coombabah	3,927
3492	Paradise Point	3,847	3474	Currumbin	1,906
3493	Parkwood	1,668	3478	Ernest-Molendinar	2,411
0096	Robina-Clear Island Waters	7,628	3482	Hollywell	2,490
3495	Runaway Bay	5,978	3483	Labrador	11,055
3498	Southport	17,991	3485	Main Beach-Broadwater	2,459
3503	Surfers Paradise	12,256	3486	Mermaid Beach	4,053
3506	Tugun	3,262	3488	Miami	4,761
7551	Tweed (S) - Pt A	28,572	3491	Palm Beach	11,651
0063	Windaroo-Bannockburn	1,377	3492	Paradise Point	3,847
0097	Worongary-Tallai	5,793	3493	Parkwood	1,668
			3495	Runaway Bay	5,978
	Total	292,031	3498	Southport	17,991
			3503	Surfers Paradise	12,256
			3506	Tugun	3,262
				Total	127,101
			7551	Tweed Shire - (Part A)	28,572
			/551	Tweed (S) – Pt A	20,372

GLOSSARY

Asia

This includes all countries contained within South-East Asia, North-east Asia, and Southern Asia.

Collection district

The collection district (CD) is the smallest geographic area used for collection and dissemination of data from the Census of Population and Housing. In urban areas there are usually between 200 and 300 dwellings in each CD.

CDs are defined for each census and remain current for the period between one census and the next. For the 1991 Census of Population and Housing there were 31,401 CDs covering the whole of Australia. CDs are amalgamated to form larger geographical areas such as legal local government areas (LGAs) and statistical divisions (SDs).

Couple

For census purposes, a couple can be either married or in a de facto relationship, but the members of a couple cannot be of the same sex. People identified as married or in a de facto relationship must be aged 15 years or older. Also see Family.

Degree or higher

See Qualifications.

Dependent offspring

Dependent offspring are family children up to 14 years of age, or family children aged 15 to 24 years who are full-time students and who have no partner or offspring of their own usually residing in the household. Dependent offspring include adopted children and foster children. Also see Family.

Double income, no children

In this atlas, "double income, no children" is defined as a couple with no offspring present where both partners are in paid employment of more than 25 hours a week and the female partner is aged under 36 years. See Family.

Dwelling

A dwelling is a building or structure in which people live. This can be a house, block of flats, caravan or tent, humpy or park bench. Dwellings are classified as:

- occupied private dwellings (including caravans in caravan parks)
- · unoccupied private dwellings
- non-private dwellings

Also see Private dwelling; Non-private dwelling.

Employed persons

For 1991 Census purposes, employed persons are people aged 15 years or older who, during the week before census night, worked for payment or profit or worked as unpaid helpers in a family business, or who had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent.

English (proficiency in the language)

People who indicated that they spoke a language other than English at home were asked to state how well they spoke English.

Because of the subjective nature of responses to this question in the census, data on the levels of proficiency in English of people who speak a language other than English at home should be broadly interpreted.

Family

A family is defined as a group of related individuals where at least one person is aged 15 years or older. The term *related* includes related by birth and related by marriage or a marriage-like relationship. Responses to the census question on usual residents who were absent on census night are used to determine the family type (e.g. if one parent in a two parent family is recorded as being absent on census night, the family will be coded as being a two parent family rather than a one parent family).

Household

A household is a group of people who usually reside and eat together. A household can be a family, a group of unrelated individuals or a person living alone. A household resides in a private dwelling (including caravans, etc. in caravan parks).

Household income

Household income is calculated by adding together all the individual incomes reported by household members. Also see Income.

Income

People aged 15 years or older were asked to state their usual gross weekly income, which is all income before deduction of tax, superannuation, health insurance or other deductions. Gross income includes family allowance, pensions, unemployment benefits, student allowances, maintenance (child support), wages, salary, rents received, interest received, business income and workers' compensation received.

Labour force

The labour force comprises people aged 15 years or older who worked for payment or profit or as unpaid helpers in a family business during the week prior to census night; had a job from which they were on leave or otherwise temporarily absent; were on strike or stood down temporarily or did not have a job but were actively looking for work.

Language (spoken at home)

The census asked each person whether they spoke a language other than English at home and, if so, what the language was. A second question aşked how well they spoke English. Also see English.

Lone parent

This term refers to the sole parent in a one parent family. Also see Family; One parent family.

Median age

This is the age which divides a population into two equal groups, one half of the population being aged above the median age and the other half being aged below it.

Medium or high density housing

This comprises semi-detached houses, row or terrace houses, villas, town houses, flats and home units.

Nature of occupancy

This indicates whether households were renting, were purchasing or owned the dwelling in which they were counted on census night.

Non-private dwelling

A non-private dwelling may be a hotel, motel, guest house, gaol, religious or charitable institution, defence establishment, hospital or communal dwelling. Complexes such as retirement villages, which have a combination of self-contained units, hostel and/or nursing home accommodation, are enumerated as non-private dwellings. Also see Private dwelling.

Occupied dwelling

An occupied dwelling is the premises occupied by the household on census night. An occupied caravan, tent, cabin, etc in a caravan park, and occupied boats in marinas are defined as census households and are treated as occupied private dwellings.

Offspring

There are two types of family offspring:

- · Dependent offspring; and
- Other offspring. These are adult offspring who have no partner or offspring of their own usually residing in the household.

Also see Dependent offspring; Family.

One parent family

A one parent family consists of a sole parent with one or more dependent offspring and/or other non-dependent offspring who usually reside in the household. One parent families may also contain *other related individuals* (e.g. a sister of the sole parent). Also see Family; Two parent family.

Owner occupied dwellings

A dwelling is classified as being owner occupied if it is owned by a usual resident of the household. This category excludes those dwellings being purchased (that is, those with a mortgage).

Part-time workers

This refers to people who worked 0 to 34 hours in their main job in the week before census night.

Person per dwelling

This is the number of persons per occupied private dwelling on census night.

Private dwelling

A private dwelling is usually a house, flat or part of a house, but can also be a house attached to, or rooms above, shops or offices; an occupied caravan in a caravan park or boat in a marina; a houseboat or a tent if it is standing on its own block of land. A caravan situated on a residential allotment is also classed as a private dwelling. Also see Non-private dwelling.

Qualifications

Information on the highest level of qualification that the person had obtained since leaving school. The category *Degree or higher* includes bachelor degrees, higher degrees and post-graduate diplomas. The category *Skilled vocational qualifications* comprises mainly people holding a trade certificate.

Rent

Households were asked whether they rented, owned or were purchasing the dwelling in which they were counted on census night. Households who were renting were also asked to whom the rent was paid.

Skilled vocational qualifications

See Qualifications.

Statistical Local Areas

Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) consist of one or more CDs and in aggregate cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps.

Two parent family

This family type comprises a couple with offspring who usually reside in the household. Two parent families may also contain *other related individuals* (e.g. a sister/sister-in-law of the couple). Also see Family; One parent family.

Unemployed persons

For 1991 Census purposes, unemployed people are defined as those people aged 15 years or more who, in the week prior to census night, did not have a job but were actively looking for work.

Usual residence

Usual residence is defined as that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of 6 months or more in 1991. For people with no usual address, the dwelling in which they were counted in on census night was regarded as their usual address.

Visitors

For the purpose of this atlas, visitors are defined as:

- persons enumerated in the Gold Coast region whose place of usual residence is elsewhere (outside the region); and
- persons whose dwelling of usual residence is within the Gold Coast region but were enumerated at another dwelling within the region on census night.

Visitors are excluded in all maps in this atlas with the exception of the Population change and Visitors to the Gold Coast region maps.

For the purpose of the Visitors to the Gold Coast region map, only persons enumerated in the Gold Coast region whose place of usual residence is elsewhere (outside the region) were mapped.



